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The China Mail

Temperature 55 Barometer 29.97
Rainfall 0.17 in. Humidity 92

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HONGKONG, SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 1924.

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DOCKERS' STRIKE CERTAIN.

**MEN ORDERED OUT.
WORK STOPS AT NOON TO-DAY.**

LABOUR MINISTRY BAFFLED.

ELEVENTH HOUR MEDIATION FAILS.

(Reuter's General Service.)

LONDON, February 15.
Negotiations in the dock dispute have broken down and a strike is now certain to-morrow. (Saturday).
[An earlier cable stated that Mr. Ben Tillett had announced that the postponement of the Dockers' Conference meant a strike on Saturday was inevitable unless a two shillings daily increase were granted that night.]

LATER.

A final attempt to secure a settlement was made by the Ministry of Labour, requesting the dockers' delegates to remain in London and meet again to-morrow.

The delegates who were about to return to their districts agreed to remain but telegraphically confirmed the orders to cease work at noon on Saturday.

[Wednesday's cables stated that while the conference between the Minister of Labour and representatives of the dockers and employers adjourned late in the evening without reaching a definite conclusion a much more hopeful spirit prevailed. It was understood the dockers would be offered an immediate increase of a shilling a day and a further shilling later.]

COTTON INDUSTRY PERIL.

POSSIBLE BIG LOCK-OUT FEARED.

IMPORTANT POINT INVOLVED.

LONDON, February 15.
A dispute has arisen in the cotton room of the Thornham Spinning Company's mill near Oldham, where 300 operatives are employed.

The point at issue is of the first importance and may lead to a lock-out involving all the mills within the Federation and 150,000 operatives.

The employers have convened a meeting of the whole trade for February 25.

NORTH POLE FLIGHT OFF.

WASHINGTON, February 15.

President Coolidge has ordered a suspension of the naval and aerial expedition to the North Pole in the summer on the grounds of economy.

[This expedition was planned largely by Mr. Denby, Secretary of the Navy, who is anxious for the United States to annex the arctic regions, including the North Pole. It was proposed to use America's giant new airship for the purpose.]

LATER.

Mr. Denby states that considerable opposition existed to the expenditure of the \$350,000 required. Therefore the President postponed the expedition until Congress had been given an opportunity of expressing its views.

TROUBLE IN HONDURAS.

MERIDA, YUCATAN, February 15.

The American cruiser "Richmond" and the British light cruiser "Capetown" have arrived. It is reported that the revolutionary Federal General Pineda has defeated the Federal General Belasco in the State of Chiapas and taken prisoner a number of men.

NAVAL OIL SCANDAL.

IMPORTANT NEW DEVELOPMENT.

INQUIRY INTO TREATIES.

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENCE SOUGHT.

(Reuter's American Service.)

WASHINGTON, February 15.
A development which is likely to have very important results in the naval oil lease scandal is the Senate's adoption of two resolutions, the first calling on the State Department to furnish all diplomatic correspondence relating to the Colombian treaty in the ratification of which the oil interests and Mr. Fall as Secretary of the Interior are said to have played leading parts; and the second asking for correspondence relating to securing oil concessions for American corporations in Russia, Mexico, Mesopotamia, Palestine, Burma, Persia and other foreign countries.

[The naval oil lease "scandal" in America, arising out of allegations of corruption in connection with the granting of Government concessions for oil leases at Wyoming has necessitated the appointment of a special Senatorial committee of investigation which has summoned a number of eminent witnesses. The affair has already dramatic developments in the charges against Mr. Fall, former Minister of the Interior, and a Senate resolution demanding the resignation of Mr. Denby, the Secretary of the Navy.]

HARDING'S NAME CLEARED.

WASHINGTON, February 15.

Mr. Vanderlip testified before the committee enquiring into the oil scandals. He had no facts whatever to substantiate his use of the late President Harding's name in his recent speech, but he suggested that an enquiry into the circumstances of the sale of the *Marion Star*, thinking it was a public duty to call attention to rumours in order to kill them. He had been a life-long friend of Mr. Harding and merely wanted to clear the late President's memory of the whispering campaign against him.

[A startling statement was reported to have been made by Mr. Vanderlip alleging that an excessive price was paid to the late President Harding in connection with the sale of his newspaper, the *Marion Star*, shortly before his death.]

SPECIAL COUNSEL.

WASHINGTON, February 15.

President Coolidge has nominated the Philadelphia Mr. Owen Roberts as Government counsel in the oil prosecutions, replacing Mr. Strawn. [Earlier cables stated that the Senate oil committee had decided to inform President Coolidge that Messrs. Strawn and Pomeroy were not acceptable as special Government counsel. Mr. Coolidge, consequently withdrew Mr. Strawn's nomination, but not Mr. Pomeroy's, as he considered that no evidence for disqualifying him had been produced.]

AVERTING A MASSACRE.

PARIS, February 15.

The prompt action of the French gendarmes at Frankenthal in dispersing crowds besieging the Separatists in the sub-prefecture prevented a repetition of the events at Pirmasens and Kaiserlautern. [Frenzied crowds at the two places mentioned hunted down Separatists with firearms, knives and axes. At Pirmasens the massacre was particularly terrible.]

COURTS MARTIAL.

WHY THE PRESS WERE BARRED.

AN EXPLANATION.

Seeking an explanation of the refusal of members of the Press to the District Courts Martial at Murray Barracks yesterday morning, a representative of the *China Mail* interviewed Col. W. N. Nicholson, D.A.A. and Q.M.G. at the China Command Headquarters this morning.

When the press representatives attended the Courts Martial room yesterday they received a message from the President of the Court, Major W. P. A. Hattersley Smith of the R.G.A., to the effect that they could not be admitted, no reason being given for the refusal.

Col. Nicholson explained this morning that there was no special reason for the denial of admittance to the Press. It was simply owing to the fact, he said, that the Court was held in a small room. The case was a simple one. A private of the 1st Battalion East Surrey was charged on three counts of disorderly conduct, using abusive language, and assaulting a lance corporal. The case was heard on January 24.

Col. Nicholson said that whenever he was in charge of the Court he always made arrangements for the

WALKING ARSENAL.

ARMS HIDDEN EVERYWHERE.

Brought into the Mongkok Police Station on Thursday after 25 rounds of ammunition had been found in his pockets during a search in a sampan, a man who had just arrived there by the ferry was found to have an automatic concealed between his legs, 14 rounds in his hat and a further 12 rounds in his pockets.

He was charged by Sub-Inspector MacWalter before Mr. J. E. Wood this morning and remanded.

accommodation of the Press. He admitted that according to the Manual of Military Law the Press could not be refused admittance, but could attend in the same way as they did a Police Court. "The Manual states—'The Court can deliberate in private and may either withdraw for the purpose or cause the Court to be cleared; but at other times the Court must be open to the public, military or otherwise, so far as the room or tent in which the Court is held can receive them.' It is not usual to place any restriction on the admission of reporters for the Press."

KOWLOON SEAMEN'S INSTITUTE.

Yesterday evening the Kowloon Seamen's Institute followed the example of its Hongkong sister, and held the first of a fortnightly series of Whist Drives. In spite of the bad weather and other social events there was quite a satisfactory attendance, and a very happy time was spent by the competitors. In order to give this new venture a good start, Mr. and Mrs. Sellwood undertook the organisation, Mr. Sellwood also acting as M.C. The next Whist Drive of the series will take place on Friday, February 29, at 8.30 p.m. On these occasions the "Dayspring" leaves Arsenal Street Pier for Kowloon at 7.50 p.m. and returns via ships at the close from Kowloon Police Wharf. The thanks of the Management are due to those gentlemen who so kindly assisted by lending tables and chairs. The winners were—Ladies—1st prize, Mrs. Hynes; 2nd, Mrs. Castledine; 3rd, Mrs. P. C. C. 1st prize, Mr. Edwards; 2nd, Mr. Hynes; 3rd, Mr. Woods; 4th, Mr. T. C. C.

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SATURDAY FEBRUARY 16, 1924.

INTIMATIONS.

HONGKONG & SHANGHAI
BANKING CORPORATION.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the ORDINARY YEARLY MEETING of the Shareholders in this Corporation will be held at the City Hall, Hongkong, on SATURDAY, the 23rd February, 1924, at 11.30 a.m. for the purpose of receiving the Report of the Court of Directors together with a Statement of Accounts for the Year ending 31st December, 1923.

The Register of Shares of the Corporation will be CLOSED from MONDAY, 11th February to SATURDAY, 23rd February, 1924 (both days inclusive) during which period no transfer of shares can be registered.

AND NOTICE is hereby given that an Extraordinary Meeting of the Shareholders of the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation will be held on the day and at the place aforesaid immediately upon the termination of the Ordinary Yearly Meeting for the purpose of considering and if thought fit of passing the following resolution viz:

That the Directors of the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation be and they are hereby requested and authorized by order of the Shareholders of the same to introduce into the Legislative Council of the Colony of Hongkong and for the enactment of the same by the Governor of Hongkong with the advice and consent of the Legislative Council thereof to effect the amendments necessary to the Ordinance under which the Corporation is incorporated and carrying on business so as to allow of the ordinary note issue of the Corporation being increased from \$20,000,000 to \$30,000,000 and to modify the existing requirements as regards the deposit of security in respect of its note issue in the following manner:

(a) So that the whole of the increase (namely \$10,000,000) of such ordinary note issue shall be secured by coin or bullion or approved securities.

(b) To provide that whatever the total amount of the note issue may be at any particular time the amount of coin as distinct from bullion or approved securities to be deposited by the Corporation shall never be less than one third of the total amount of the bills in actual circulation.

By Order of the Court of Directors.
A. G. STEPHEN,
Chief Manager.
Hongkong, 4th February, 1924.

THE HONGKONG ROPE MANUFACTURING COMPANY, LTD.

THE FORTIETH ORDINARY ANNUAL MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS in the above Company will be held at St. George's Building, Charter Road, Victoria, on THURSDAY, the 28th February 1924, at 11 o'clock a.m. for the purpose of receiving a statement of accounts and the report of the General Managers for the year ending 31st December 1923, and electing a Consulting Committee and Auditors.

The Transfer Books of the Company will be closed from THURSDAY, the 21st February 1924, until THURSDAY 28th February 1924, both days inclusive.

SHEWAN, TOMES & CO.,
General Managers.
Hongkong, 9th February, 1924.

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INTIMATIONS

HONGKONG JOCKEY CLUB.

RACE MEETING 1924.

FEBRUARY 20th, 21st, 22nd & 23rd.

MEMBERS' BADGES OF ADMISSION are now ready and may be obtained by those Members who have not already received them, from Messrs. Linstead & Davis, Alexandra Buildings. Members are notified that they cannot gain admission on production of the metal Badges issued last year.

C. B. BROWN,
Secretary.
Hongkong, February 8, 1924.

HONGKONG JOCKEY CLUB.

RACE MEETING 1924.

FEBRUARY 20th, 21st, 22nd & 23rd.

MEMBERS have the privilege of introducing two non-members to the MEMBERS' ENCLOSURE. A limited number of tickets are available and may be obtained from Messrs. Linstead & Davis, Alexandra Buildings on or before Tuesday, the 19th February.

Price \$10.00 per day or \$30.00 for the Meeting.
Linstead & Davis,
Treasurers.
Hongkong, February 8, 1924.

HONGKONG JOCKEY CLUB.

RACE MEETING 1924.

FEBRUARY 20th, 21st, 22nd & 23rd.

TICKETS OF ADMISSION to the PUBLIC ENCLOSURE may be obtained from Messrs. Kelly & Walker at the Gate. Price \$5.—per day. SOLDIERS AND SAILORS in uniform \$1.—per day.

No one admitted without a Ticket to be shown to the Ticket Inspector at the Gate.
Linstead & Davis,
Treasurers.
Hongkong, February 8, 1924.

HONGKONG JOCKEY CLUB.

RACE MEETING 1924.

FEBRUARY 20th, 21st, 22nd & 23rd.

PASSES for Servants will be issued on application to Messrs. Linstead & Davis, Alexandra Buildings. No Servants will be allowed inside the Enclosure of the Race Course during Race Days WITHOUT TICKETS.

These tickets are only available for Servants while in attendance on their Employers or when on duty at the various stands. Any City at the various stands. Any Chinese found loitering about with Servants' Passes in their possession will forfeit them and holders thereof will be removed from the Enclosure.
C. B. BROWN,
Secretary.
Hongkong, 11th February, 1924.

HONGKONG JOCKEY CLUB.

RACE MEETING 1924.

FEBRUARY 20th, 21st, 22nd & 23rd.

THE Stewards request the presence of the Ladies at the Races.
Hongkong, February 14, 1924.

HONGKONG JOCKEY CLUB.

RACE MEETING 1924.

FEBRUARY 20th, 21st, 22nd & 23rd.

AN ADJOURNED COMBINED MEETING will be held at the Guilds' Offices, Sailors' Home, West Point, Hongkong, on SUNDAY, 17th inst. at 10 o'clock a.m.

BUSINESS as per Circular, H.K.C. 3/24.

T. T. LAURENSEN,
Asst. Sec. C.C.O.G.
W. J. STOKES,
Branch Sec. M.E.C.C.

HONGKONG JOCKEY CLUB.

RACE MEETING 1924.

FEBRUARY 20th, 21st, 22nd & 23rd.

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HONGKONG JOCKEY CLUB.

RACE MEETING 1924.

FEBRUARY 20th, 21st, 22nd & 23rd.

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INTIMATIONS.

THE HONGKONG ELECTRIC
COMPANY, LIMITED.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the THIRTY-FIFTH ORDINARY GENERAL MEETING will be held at the Company's Offices, St. George's Building on MONDAY, 3rd March 1924, at 11 A.M. for the purpose of presenting the Report of the Directors together with a Statement of Accounts to 31st December 1923, and electing Directors and Auditor.

The TRANSFER BOOKS of the Company will be CLOSED from 23rd February to 3rd March 1924, both days inclusive.

By Order of the Board of Directors.
GIBB, LIVINGSTON & CO., LTD.
Agents.
Hongkong, 12th February, 1924.

GREEN ISLAND CEMENT Co., LTD.

THE THIRTY-FIFTH ORDINARY ANNUAL MEETING OF THE SHAREHOLDERS in the Company will be held at the Offices of the Company, St. George's Building, Charter Road, Victoria, Hongkong on TUESDAY the 4th of March 1924, at 11 o'clock in the forenoon for the purpose of receiving a Statement of Accounts and Report of the Directors for the year ending 31st December, 1923, and declaring a dividend.

The TRANSFER BOOKS of the Company will be closed from TUESDAY the 19th February 1924, until TUESDAY the 4th day of March 1924, both days inclusive.

By Order of the Board of Directors.
SHEWAN, TOMES & CO.,
General Managers.
Hongkong, 11th February, 1924.

THE HONGKONG & KOWLOON
WHARF & GODOWN CO., LTD.

NOTICE TO SHAREHOLDERS.

THE THIRTY-SEVENTH ORDINARY ANNUAL MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS will be held at the Offices of Messrs. JARDINE, MATHESON & CO., LTD., on MONDAY, February 26th, 1924, at 11 a.m., for the purpose of receiving the Report of the Directors and the Statement of Accounts for the year ended December 31st, 1923.

THE TRANSFER BOOKS of the Company will be CLOSED from Thursday, February 14th, 1924 to Monday, February 26th, 1924, both days inclusive.

By Order of the Board of Directors.
W. S. BROWN,
Secretary.
Hongkong, 15th February, 1924.

ST. JOHN'S CATHEDRAL.

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ORGAN RECITAL

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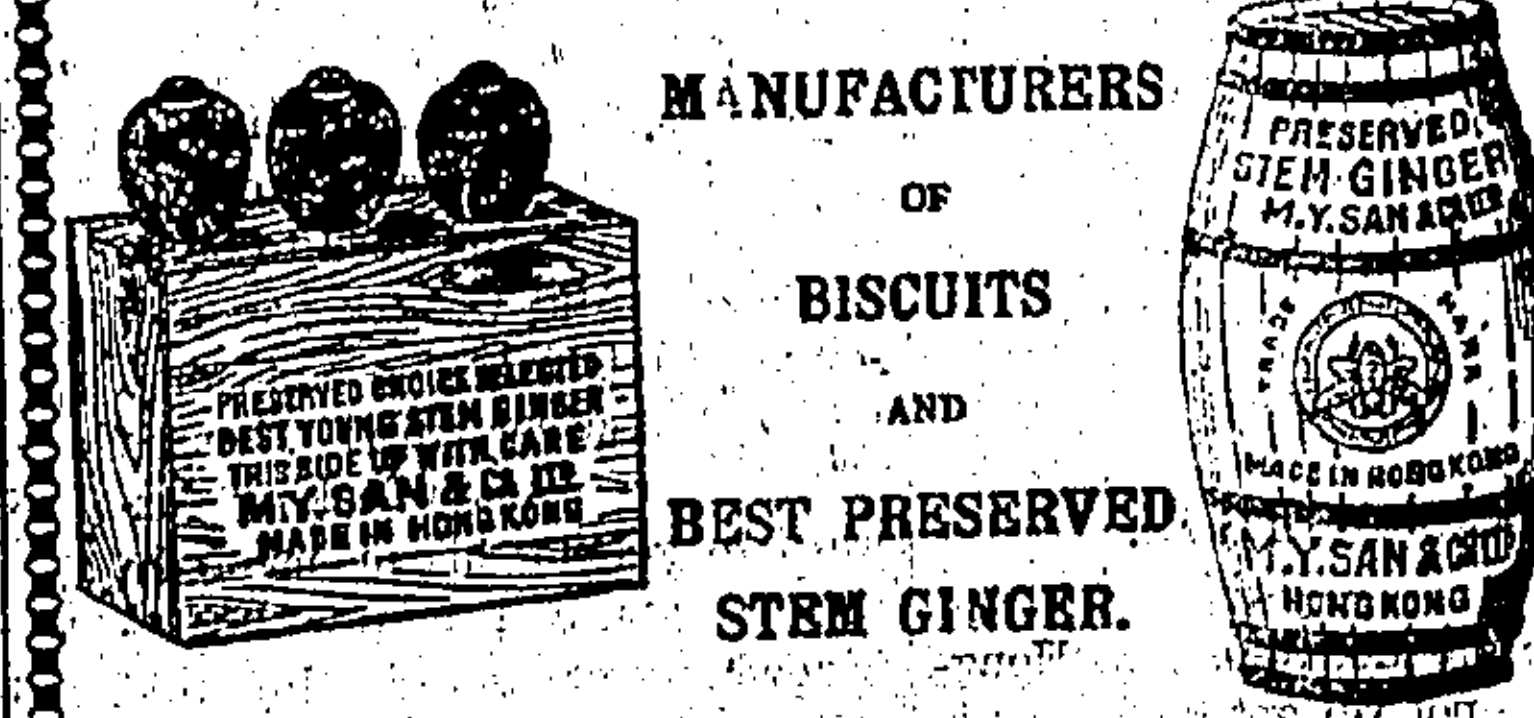
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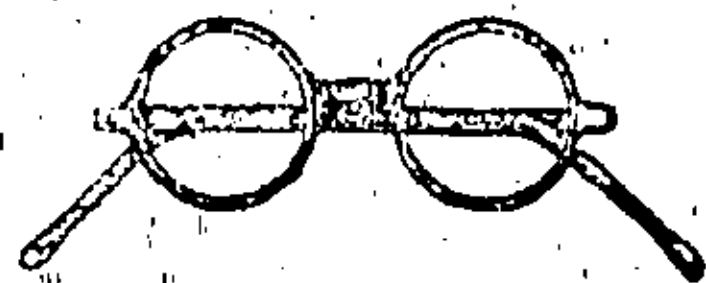
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HONGKONG SATURDAY, FEB. 16, 1924.

COUEISM.

It is a wonder to us that Hongkong has not yet got its Coueistic Society. There are numbers of things that "every day and in every way" need to be getting better and better, and we hope to demonstrate this as we go along. The advantage of Coueism so far as we understand it is that it costs nothing, and we begin to think that the recent share boom was caused by a gang of unprincipled Coueists! Mr. Coue held a meeting in London the other day. It was timed for 2.30 p.m. in a certain Lady Noble's flat. At 3.40 p.m. Coue had not Coued. One male member of the audience got up and said—these are his exact words—"I suppose we may take it that every moment in every way Mr. Coue is getting nearer and nearer?" And so marvellous is this Coueism business that Coue did get nearer and nearer, (in every way) and eventually arrived. This shows how easy the thing is and after stating that fact our suggestion of a Society for the propagation of Coueism will doubtless be speedily organized. The membership will

in all probably be small for in order to be a disciple of the French master you need to be an optimist. And we ask you how many optimists are there in Hongkong! A few certainly. There is Bill Adams who is looking forward to getting his money from the Banque, and a few hoary-headed members of the Odd Volumes Society—to say nothing of those who don't anticipate being flogged by a motor-car. Of Coueistic subjects there will be a plethora (we hope that is the right word). The Chairman having opened the meeting will ask for subjects on which to try the cult. Gracious us, after that first meeting there won't be standing room at the next and following meetings. We imagine our Compadres will seek for an intense application of—"Every way and every day. I hope Mr. Coue will bimble pay my account." Certainly the movement will have no difficulty in choosing subjects. What everybody wants every day and in every way, are cheaper rents; more houses; wider streets, better traffic regulations; less speedier cars in the centre of the town; the P.W.D. to cease from its road upheavals; and Dr. Suk to take "my Government" licence—a long way hence. As an inducement we offer a year's publicity free to the Society, providing we can emulate Mr. Irving and his Education Board, and call it

"my (or our) child." But we fear it is no use; the Government would prohibit it at the outset. For some fool member would want "in every way etc." a measure of Constitutional Reform, and as Coueism never fails, Constitutional Reform, as doth night the day, would follow as a matter of course.

Tombs.

When we read the news that Mr. Howard Carter had at last got to the sarcophagus of the late Pharaoh Tutankhamen, we wondered if the outcry would be renewed against interfering with the remains of departed monarchs. We know there is a distinct feeling in certain quarters against the activities of the Carnarvon-Carter operations in ransacking tombs and disturbing the remains of departed ones as they have done. People cannot understand what good is achieved by such more or less ruthless practices. Egyptologists there are in doubtless glory in the work of explorers and excavators of the Howard Carter type and are prepared to argue that such are bestowing a benefit on the present and the future in unearthing the treasures of the past and enlightening us on the modes and manners of a more than distant past. There may be additions to this view, but if so they are unknown to us. If there is anything to be gained in this knowledge, doubtless the time and money spent to say nothing of the death of the Earl of Carnarvon, have been well worth it. But the non-disturbance has something to be said in their favour. We remember that quite recently some Americans wished to disinter the bones of some famous American who had wandered far and for his pains been buried in some quiet corner "that is forever England." But the outcry against the proposed proceedings and the expressed horror in the idea of digging in consecrated ground and shipping dried-up bones to America, caused the matter hastily to be dropped. Of course the Egyptian case is different. That wasn't either an Englishman or an American, and was probably a regular son of a heathen. But this style of argument is unconvincing; besides which the question is temporarily shelved. There has been a row. The Egyptian P.W.D. has been discourteous. Probably incensed at being done out of an upheaval job!

"Stop Yer Ticklin'."

Harry Lauder's proposed visit to Hongkong next year in the course of his extended tour has already caused a flutter of excitement which in itself is a tribute to the man and his personality. For here is a one-time miner the welcomed friend of princes and peers, whose name is almost a household one. It may not be far to seek the cause of this popularity. Harry Lauder has brought to his art—and it is a great art, natural gift of wit and clean humour that have had an irresistible appeal. For his appeal has been to the heart and if he has not quite managed to make two blades of grass grow where hitherto only one has existed, he has been able to banish dull care away and to make his listeners depart, feeling somewhat better. There are probably more stories current of Harry Lauder than any other person living, and these, curiously, have had to do with his alleged canniness—or to put it more directly—his meanness. How they arose, whether they have any foundation in fact we do not know, but the stories are most of them very pointed. The last one we heard was from the chief of a music hall in Sydney at a time when Harry was appearing in another hall in the same town. This particular comedian put the following conundrum to his audience: "What is the difference between Harry Lauder and a coconut?" and answered it with "Well you can get a drink out of a coconut!" Harry probably knows of these stories and like the wise man he is, ignores them, as being hurt and parcel of the things that come to all famous men. Lauder is getting on in years, and observers note his tendency to shatter all possible occasions to shatter his songs with, or at least, to offer the word of advice, and to point a moral. He is probably entitled to do so; for a man ripe to wealth and fame is not to be despised. Harry's war sacrifice is also another matter which entitles him to regard and respect and he will find when he visits Hongkong, that the welcome he will get will be in sincerity with those who he has received elsewhere.

St. Ronald Mac-CONGRATS. I say, H.M. Minister, open the new building of the North China Daily News to-day, and congratulations will doubtless be showered on proprietors and staff on the occasion of this "house warming." The

North China Daily News has been twitted on its staidness and antiquity, but declares that it acknowledges "the soft impeachment" and rejoices in it. This is but a sample of the honesty which has for so long been a dominant feature of the paper and of those who guide its destinies. In these days that is something to be thankful for. We may well add our congratulations to the many that will be showered on the N.C.D.N. to-day. Such journals of "staidness and antiquity" are all too rare. That they do exist and remain as firm as the foundations on which they are built is something to be thankful for. To such papers as the Manchester Guardian, the London Observer, and the London Daily Telegraph must be added the North China Daily News—for, if we may repeat what has not yet become a cliché, they make righteousness readable.

The observant ones CHINESE will have noticed during these last few alleged cold days that Chinese ladies have adopted a coat peculiar to their own physique and in keeping with things Chinese. Thus instead of wearing an overcoat of a very masculine make and look; many ladies now appear in a padded coat, of Chinese design and of bright and varied hues, making a pleasing relief to the general sombreness of these dull grey days and the dark shades of material used by those intent on keeping warm.

The London PEERSHOW. Saturday Review recently published a rather clever series of verses on the election. One is entitled "Mr. Lloyd George's" another "Mr. Asquith's." We give below the verses assigned to the other political leaders. Thus—

Mr. MacDonald squeaks:
"Here! Push two pennies in our slot."
These automatic figures
Are Webb's and mine—a pair divine.
Inspired by Russian rigours.
Enriched you'll stand with cash and land.
Where nothing will be contraband
But Labour, Love and Liberty—
Those acrobatic figures."
Mr. Baldwin speaks:
"I drop my pennies in your slot."
Starved, automatic figures,
This foreign rot may go to pot,
And all its market-riggers.
I scorn to dazzle your desires.
I beg you, dance no more on wires
Or listen to the base town-cries.
I bid you to be fellow-souls,
Not automatic figures."

THE TALKING SHOP. having reasssembled reminds us of a schoolboy howler very appropriate to the occasion. Answering a question as to who Oliver was he wrote: Cromwell took some soldiers into Parliament and said: "Take away this babble."

Out of the mouths of babes and sucklings etc.
LADY ASTOR. A signal honour is to be paid M.P. Lady Astor, Conservative member of the House of Commons for the Sutton division of Plymouth since 1919. A painting is to be placed in Parliament commemorating the arrival of the first woman member of the House of Commons, in the person of Lady Astor. The picture will be hung on the wall of the main staircase, just below the place where Queen Elizabeth is portrayed. With the entrance of an increased number of women members into the House, it has become necessary to enlarge the private accommodations for them. Hitherto the three women M.P.s, who sat in the House before the recent election, have shared the small room assigned to Lady Astor when she first became a member, but now that there are eight women, all are to have a sitting room and a dressing room. This suite will be equipped with mirrors, dressing tables and wardrobes, and will be furnished to suit the women's tastes.

So far as America is concerned, the statement in a recent popular "song" has been affectually disproved. The United States during 1922 imported 50,000,000 bunches of bananas. This, a statistician tells us, reduced to a per capita basis, indicates that every individual in the States—man, woman and child—was responsible for two-fifths of a bunch in the year.

The sale of the London Morning Post has prompted someone to tell the world that to add to the income of the London Morning Post, a paper at all times a success, the play was thought to be very good, which seems to suggest that the paper wasn't

Universally respected SILENCE throughout his entire career. Sir Frederick Treves was a man firm of purpose, original in thought and courageous. Some may recall his action in 1906, strongly illustrative of his character, when, as Lord Rector of Aberdeen University, he caused the local press to announce that, if there was the slightest interruption of his address, he would immediately leave the room and not return. From time long past it had been considered an unassailable student prerogative to break in upon the speaker at will and make all sorts of noises. So great was the regard for Sir Frederick, however, that he was accorded an enthusiastic welcome and the most attentive hearing. And no one felt that his determination to be heard sprang from the slightest sense of self-aggrandizement or pride. He had something to say and he knew it, hence he felt that he was entitled to a proper hearing.

In England during 1919 there is said to have been a deficit of 706,248 houses. The deficit is stated to have increased by 3,000,000, as against this stupendous total only 2,500 houses were built in 1923, and the delay in meeting a pressing evil is announced as a scandal and a disgrace to the authorities.

The builder of THE EIFFEL. The Eiffel Tower is dead and that fact has prompted some one to dwell on the futility of monstrosities. Visitors to Paris would probably confess that they saw little to admire in the Eiffel Tower; that in fact they considered it rather hideous. The thing has no claim to beauty, and has only achieved usefulness, accidentally, as a meteorological and wireless station. It stirs no real admiration in us to know that it is five times higher than the Monument in London. Londoners are not fond of their Monument on account of its height, but for the dignity of the old column and its history. The Eiffel Tower is not dignified and its history is trivial. It was built in 1887, taking two years to complete, by Alexandre Gustave Eiffel, on the Champ de Mars, Paris. It is 985 feet high, consists chiefly of lattice-work, is of three stories, and is served by lifts. It cost £250,000, a sum partly paid up in admission fees and partly contributed by the state. Probably it is the last architectural enormity that Western civilisation will suffer to embarrass its capitals.

Some of our dramatic critics are nothing if not exact. One informs us anent the repeat performance of the Kowloon A.D.C. that "as was the case previously the scenery by Messrs. G. and A. Dyson was all that could be desired." It was very obliging of the scenery to stay put, and not do any "chameleon" stunts.

We note that H.E. BILBID. The Governor during his recent visit to Manila went to Bilbid prison—merely as a visitor let us hasten to add. That would be in accord with H.E.'s well-known interest in prisons, and we hope prison reform; for the American authorities at Bilbid have instituted reforms and methods which earn the regard and best wishes of those who recognise that even in the worst there is a spark of goodness which only needs kindling. Bilbid attracts the visitor and his workshop also where there is on view and for sale all the articles made by the temporary staff—and excellent things they are; besides which there is an excellent band. This prison visiting opens out new prospects and we shall doubtless one day see a constant stream of visiting tourists making their way to Mr. Frank's penitentiary at Old Bailey. Why should this pleasure be reserved for visiting justices and those whom our local "beaks" send there to ponder over the error of their ways?

To-day's Poem.

(The Centipede.)
I sometimes think God made the worm
To teach us not to go too fast;
And gave the Orang Outang her tail
That man might not forget his past.
The worm to all may prove of use
And, by example, upward lead;
But who? ah who? would dare deduce
A moral from the CENTIPEDE?

—E. J. E. Tiddy.

WEATHER CALENDAR.

FEBRUARY 16.

1777. Mr. Palgrave is in town, and so is a third inundation of snow—Walpole.

1788. The ground white with snow before we went to bed.—Dorothy Wordsworth.

A PROOF.

One of the best proofs of mediocrity is not to recognize superiority wherever we happen to come across it.
—Jean-Baptiste Say,
(1767-1832).

SHADOWS BEFORE.

Coming Events Advertised
In The Mail.

ENTERTAINMENT'S.

February 16.—Coronet Theatre: "Thundering Dawn."
February 16.—Star Theatre: 3.30 p.m. Douglas McLean in "One Minute." 9.15 p.m. "The Rajah of Rajahpore" by the Kowloon Dock A.D.C.
February 16.—World Theatre: Mrs. Wallace Reid in "Human Wreckage."

February 18.—Pianoforte Recital at City Hall, 5.30 p.m.
February 21.—Theatre Royal: The Quaints in "Underground to Anywhere," 9.15 p.m.

SOCIAL.

February 19.—Organ recital in St. John's Cathedral, 5.30 p.m.
February 23.—Royal Air Force Re-union Dinner.
March 1.—St. David's Society Dinner.

SPORTS.

February 18.—Theatre Royal: H.K. Boxing Assn. special tournament, cancelled owing to Chadwick's illness.

February 20-23. Hongkong Jockey Club race meeting.
March 2.—Next Tournament of the H.K. Boxing Assn.

PUBLIC AUCTIONS.

February 19.—Lammert Bros. at Sales Rooms, household furniture, etc., 2.30 p.m.

COMPANY MEETINGS.

February 23.—Annual meeting of the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation at City Hall, 11.30 p.m.

February 25.—Thirty-seventh meeting of the Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Co. Ltd., at Messrs. Jardine's offices, 11 a.m.

February 28.—Annual Meeting of the H.K. Rope Manufacturing Company, at St. George's Bldg., Chater Road, 11 a.m.

March 3.—Thirty-fifth meeting of the H.K. Electric Co., at St. George's Bldg., Chater Rd., 11 a.m.

March 4.—Thirty-fifth ordinary annual meeting of shareholders of the Green Island Cement Co. Ltd., at St. George's Bldg., Chater Rd., 11 a.m.

OTHER MEETING.

February 17.—Adjourned combined meeting of the China Coast Officers' and Marine Engineers' Guild of China, at Sailors' Home, West Point, 11 a.m.

LECTURE.

February 19.—At St. Andrew's Church, Kowloon, Dr. H. Gordon Thompson gives account of his journey along the borders of Tibet.

OUR LOCAL POETS.

MAN! HOW NOBLE!
YET HOW BASE!

Man! how noble! yet how base!
The offspring of a tiny atom! All for thee.
The mighty God did toll these nights and days
That thou of his creation's master be.

When He the Universe did first create,
And had the heav'n's in emerald colour drest,
He them with silv'ry stars and Moon did make;
And these from tiny atom shaped and blest.

For He reflected: "I have made this Universe,
With Earth and Sky, and flowers, rivers, all
That is most beautiful, yet none converse
About its loveliness; "and so created Man its beauties to extoll.

But Man forgot his nobleness, and committed sin;
For some said there was One, and some said there was None;
And Greed, and Envy, Hatred, all with sulphuric claws crept in;
And tears flowed, and blood incarnadined;

And Men, rebellious creatures, crept out, one by one;
And yet for all their pains, God still sustains
The Universe, that still is what it always was, and been.

—ZAMIR.

A Standard Remedy.

Chamberlain's Cough Remedy is a standard family medicine. It is reliable and effective for coughs, colds, croup, bronchitis, whooping cough, nervous hacking, tickling throat, troublesome night coughs and the chronic coughs of elderly people. For sale everywhere.

A LITTLE LOVE.

ITS EFFECT ON GEORGE
IN OUR BOARDING
HOUSE.

[By John Sinclair.]

Love is a sickness which attacks its victim in a variety of forms. Generally, the sufferer, if he gets it bad, can't eat. Like the thoroughbred rabbit when it is feeling down and out, he goes right off his food. Just a simple point of his loved one's lips will turn him into a misanthrope, give him that awful suspense look seen in the ante-room of a dentist's waiting chamber. Love has turned men's hair grey; it has reformed the criminal, converted the parson into a murderer, won wars, lost nations and turned the world upside down. With George, the Dark-Haired Clerk at my Kowloon boarding house, it has ruined his appetite.

George has had his eyes on Betty for the last three weeks. George ought to have had more sense. Betty is the coquette of the Boarding House, the one that leads you on and then turns you away, to quote an old song. She is just turned eighteen, thoroughly English and flirtatious, with a smile and a wink that shows great promise for her maturer years. To the man of the world it is a bit amateurish, too emphatic and lacking that insidiously tantalising quality which can only be described as—? Yet she has George on his knees. Six-foot George, eight years older than she is, good job in Hongkong and all that, is simply groping at the hem of her garments. Poor old George has got it bad.

The Old Lady has noticed it. There is hardly anything that escapes her eagle eye. She has refrained from commenting audibly on the affair yet, for Miss Winterbottom's wedding still holds her attention, but I can see that every dinner time, she has one eye and ear focussed on the corner table and the other politely turned to Miss W. I never did believe her when she said she was deaf. It is these deaf people who hear when you don't want them to and refuse to hear, or mishear when you shout at them.

Betty is certainly pretty, dances divinely and pecks at a cigarette when her mother is not looking. I have not seen her try a cocktail yet, but I suppose that will come in due course. George is not the dashing young fellow for her. He is too serious-looking, too reserved, that kind of a chan who would throw himself down on the pavement and let her walk over him, wipe her feet in his neck and then offer to carry her handbag. Hongkong has not broadened George's outlook though he has been here five years. I venture to suggest that three months in Shanghai, would polish him up, make a cosmopolitan of him and make him take notice even if he had a raging toothache at both sides.

Betty sits at the table with George, her brother and a mysterious boarder who is either deaf or Dutch. She has not spurned George, nor refused to accompany him to the church concert, but now and again she arches those lovely eyebrows of hers (which I am beginning to suspect she touches up occasionally) and puts ten years on George's shoulders. He struggles valiantly through his meal heart-broken, I presume, when she says she cannot go to the pictures "because two of her brother's friends are coming to try over a new piece which they have bought at Moutrie's." One night Betty failed to put in an appearance and when her brother casually mentioned that she had gone to a party, George dalled with his fish, testily poked at his chicken, sniffed at the roast beef and drank off the coffee in a gulp. And when Betty, full of youthful bloom and blushes, turned up at fifteen the next day, and gave a verbatim report of the party, George seemed to me, watching from a distance, to be on the verge of suicide. He carried his twenty-six years out of the dining room with the burden of toothless octogenarian.

As I said before, George should have more sense. A good dose of Epsons, a twenty-mile walk to Peking, and a game of billiards will cure him. The glimmerer looks the more. Betty twirls him round her dainty finger. He should stop the business before it begins to look ridiculous. Love laughs at iron bars, Becham's Pills and all that, but George is going the wrong way about it. Betty wants a masterful man, not one to tie her shoe lace and dangle on a chain like a performing monkey. Treat her rough, George! She'll cut you with a knife for the first two days, but repeated doses will bring her round. What women hate more than anything else is a fawning, ingratiating, conventional idiot and I hope George reads this. I am going away for the week-end.

EDUCATION IN HONGKONG.

MR. IRVING LOOKS BACK.
SOME NOTABLE LOCAL CHANGES.
Retiring Director's Interesting Reminiscences.

"If anybody had told me twenty-three years ago that a Chinese football team could have beaten a team of British blue-jackets, I should simply have laughed."

The Hon. Mr. E. A. Irving, Director of Education, who bids farewell to the Colony next Saturday to enjoy a well earned retirement in England, was in a "China Mail" representative yesterday. He has had an enviable experience in the life of Hongkong, particularly in his own sphere, watching with eager eyes the growth of an educational system which is now second to none in the Far East.

Comparative Estimates.
During his twenty-three years with the Education Department there have been many outstanding events in the history of the Colony's education, events which are landmarks in Mr. Irving's career. In a department which in 1900, estimated its needs at £75,000 and increased it to £125,000 in 1924 to \$900,000, Mr. Irving has seen the remarkable expansion of a system which had been greatly due to his efforts.

When Mr. Irving came to Hongkong there were five principal schools; Queen's College, St. Joseph's, the Diocesan, and the French and Italian Convents. Twenty-three years on, told in figures, the students numbered 2,900 and in the vernacular schools 4,500. In 1922 these figures leapt to 13,700 for British Schools and 25,000 in the vernacular schools. In 1900 there were only 12 European teachers, now there were 79, said the Director of Education. Chinese masters totalled 23 in 1900 but this year there were 135.

The Chief Difficulty.
"Our principal difficulty all through," said Mr. Irving, "has lain in the absence of sufficient accommodation to meet the rapidly increasing demands for places in the schools, and as regards the vernacular educational system, there has been the difficulty of getting trained teachers. But a great deal has been done in this respect in the latter years" added Mr. Irving.

Speaking of the changes in the educational life of Hongkong, Mr. Irving said that the opening of the University had effected a marked difference in the advance of Chinese scholarship. Chinese were taking full advantage of the opportunities of higher education which could be seen in the fact that since the inauguration of the University over 800 students had passed the Matriculation Senior Examination and nearly 1,300 the Junior, up to 1922.

Another marked change during Mr. Irving's regime, was in the system of teaching English to Chinese. The old method of teaching the language confined to reading and writing was a slow and painful process. Students were taught to read and write but were generally unable to understand when spoken to. Now they were taught colloquial English and showed much better results.

The Staffs' Shortage.
The Education Department, continued Mr. Irving, met with a serious obstacle during and after the war. The staffs were hard to fill and most of the schools were hard hit. During recent years, however, this difficulty has been surmounted, one of the schools which has greatly benefited being the Central British, which, added Mr. Irving, "has now as strong a staff as any in the Colony" and was progressing in a way which was making it one of the most promising of institutions.

Referring to the success of the Technical Institute Mr. Irving paid a tribute to Mr. E. Ralphs, the Inspector of Schools, who, he said, had worked most energetically and had been responsible for its rapid development.

The physical education of the Chinese students in the early days of Mr. Irving's career in Hongkong was virtually ignored. Chinese parents were antagonistic to their sons and daughters indulging in the "improper" Western games, and as Mr. Irving, laughingly added, "if anybody had said then that I should have been seeing a Chinese troop of Girl Guides, I would have honestly laughed at them." Here Mr. Irving referred to the good work being done by Miss Woo of the St. Paul's Girls' School in this direction.

As Mr. Irving said in a farewell speech at the Satiangpan School recently, when he is settled down at home he will look back with happy memories of Hongkong Schools. He confessed to our representative that he did not know exactly where he was going to find his little home, but he did intend getting a comfortable cottage with a garden where he could indulge in his horticultural hobby and live in the memory of old acquaintanceship of Hongkong. Our readers will join with us in wishing Mr. Irving many happy years of retirement.

The Hon. Mr. Irving leaves on the s.s. "Morea" next Saturday.

NEW RENTS BILL.

PREVENTING NEEDLESS RECONSTRUCTION.

ORDINANCE AMENDMENT.

WASTING COLONY'S BUILDING RESOURCES.

With the object of preventing the reconstruction of houses which are in a substantially good condition, a bill to amend further the Rents Ordinance will be introduced at the next meeting of the Legislative Council. The new bill states that the reconstruction of houses which are in a reasonably good condition is a wasteful use of the building resources of the Colony, even where the reconstruction provides additional floor area, and in some cases the floor area is reduced. Such reconstruction necessarily involves a temporary reduction in the domestic accommodation of the Colony, and it is against the spirit of the Rents Ordinances.

Reconstruction is dealt with at present in section 4 (1) of Ordinance No. 14 of 1922. That paragraph provides that a lessor can recover possession in order to reconstruct upon, giving three months' notice to the tenant, provided that the notice is accompanied by a certificate from the Building Authority to the effect that the intended reconstruction will be such as to make the building a new building within the meaning of Ordinance No. 1 of 1903. The present bill proposes to enact that the notice to quit shall not be valid unless the certificate of the Building Authority which is served with it contains also a statement to the effect that the intended reconstruction is desirable. Clause 2 of the bill provides that the certificate is not to be given unless the Building Authority is of opinion that the condition of the domestic tenement in question is such as to make the intended reconstruction desirable. An appeal is provided to the Governor in Council. On such appeal the Governor in Council will have an unfettered discretion and will not be limited to the consideration of the condition of the building.

This is in order to meet special cases as the erection of a large modern building on the site of several small and old houses, or the fresh development and laying-out of an entire block. Clause 2 and 3 of the bill standing alone, would apply only to notices to quit given after the commencement of the new Ordinance, but it is considered desirable that the restriction proposed in the bill should be applied also to notices to quit given before the commencement of the new Ordinance and still unexpired at its commencement. Clause 4, therefore, provides that every notice to quit given before the commencement of the Ordinance under section 4 (1) of the principal Ordinance which is still unexpired at the commencement of the new Ordinance shall be invalid unless a certificate that the intended reconstruction is desirable is obtained from the Building Authority during the currency of the three months notice to quit. An appeal to the Governor in Council is also provided in this case. Owners of property who have already given notices to quit for the purpose of reconstruction should observe that their notices will be invalid unless they can obtain the necessary certificate either from the Building Authority or from the Governor in Council, before the three months expires. Accordingly, any owners whose notices will be on the point of expiring at the time when the Ordinance will probably come into force if it is passed would be well advised to make application before-hand for the necessary certificate, so that the Building Authority may be in a position to issue the certificate in time. No doubt there are cases in which the Building Authority would be quite prepared to give the certificate.

STOP PRESS.
STEAMER INQUIRY.
The finding of the Court of Inquiry which investigated the abandoning at Sea on January 26 of the s.s. "Mary Horlock" was announced at noon to-day by the President, Lieut. Comdr. Conway Hake R.N.R. The Court found that the master, Capt. R. C. Hill was justified in scuttling the ship, commended him and his crew for their seamanship in launching a boat and transferring the crew without loss, and drew the attention of the Board of Trade to the prompt arrival and fine rescue carried out by the s.s. "President Tait."

Troublesome Coughs.
A troublesome, sleep-disturbing night cough can be cured by taking Chamberlain's Cough Remedy. You will like the soothing, healing effect it puts on the inflamed lining of the throat and the prompt relief which the second dose brings.

OUR SOCIAL EVIL.

HONGKONG AGAIN ATTACKED.

VISCOUNTESS ASTOR'S MEDDLING.

VITAL FACTS SHE IGNORES.

SINGAPORE'S TERRIBLE EXAMPLE.

(Special to the China Mail.)

Ordure is a most unpleasant word, a revolting epithet; yet there are people who do not hesitate to apply it to fellow beings, as Bernard Shaw found out when he first staged "Mrs. Warren's Profession." These are the people who "abandon all self-restraint under the impression that they are upholding virtue." There are others who snivel about "unfortunate women," whom they sensitively describe as belonging to "a certain class." Again there are those who hold "the widely whispered view that it is a prostitution—this is an indispensable safety valve for the protection of domestic virtue." And there are the few who face the facts.

Anyone can grasp the facts—once they have freed their minds from prejudice, wilful or blind. Bernard Shaw himself, even when he is bitterest against the conditions which make prostitution prevalent does not overlook the fact that those conditions are the direct outcome of our social system and will remain just so long as our social system continues unchanged; just so long (in his own words) as poverty makes virtue hideous.

Before this implacable fact even those nobler souls who believe—rightly or wrongly—that mankind will yet achieve mastery over its desires, are dumb, knowing that women, "economically dependent," very often have only two choices—"the white lead factory where Jane was poisoned," and the easy luxury of the young lady in Thomas Hardy's poem who was "ruined."

Consequently while existing social conditions continue—and not even the most zealous Labour Government can alter human nature—persecuting prostitutes and abolishing brothels simply mean tinkering with the problem, if not actually inviting still greater evils.

These are little points that the noble Viscountess Astor would do well to remember before she rises again in the House of Commons and gives vent to her throbbing pity, her Pecksniffian scorn or her bursting virtue (as the case may be) at the expense of luckless Hongkong. We don't know whether we have to thank this misguided lady for the previous attacks against the Colony but it seems not improbable, since they were as pointless as the one cabled from London yesterday. They showed that the busybody behind them either wanted to abolish prostitution altogether or to wipe out such precautions as presently exist, both equally stupid and absurd demands, with conditions as they now obtain, not simply in Hongkong, but all over the world.

If Lady Astor did inspire those

attacks she has gone much further now in openly charging the Colony with "regulated prostitution," a term which can only lead the ignorant at home to suppose that Hongkong officials encourage, or at the very least complacently accept, the evil. Nothing could be more fanciful. Our officials here must deplore it just as much as the most soaring idealist, but with this vital difference—they are fully conversant with local conditions, which Viscountess Astor and her tribe are not. But one hardly needs to have the thorough knowledge our officials possess to know that few other large cities, not even Viscountess Astor's own Plymouth or London town, conduct their inevitable "social evil" with greater order and propriety than does Hongkong—a fact which magnifies her temerity in attacking Hongkong into an impertinence.

Unfortunately we are not told the outcome of her question in the Commons, yesterday's cable merely stating that it was referred to the Colonial Secretary. With him the matter now rests. If he adopts the wise policy laid down by his predecessor—a likely course since he is a sensible man—he will leave the problem to the "men on the spot," who after all must be given some small credit for applying local knowledge and experience which no outsider—not even the impetuous Viscountess—can hope to possess. Should the Hon. Mr. J. R. Clynes, however, allow himself to be wheedled or bullied into interference from distant London, then the only thing Hongkong can expect is a repetition of Singapore's dreadful experience.

According to the report issued by the Government's special medical committee, after hearing evidence from thirteen doctors, Singapore's conditions are appalling. Following the abolition of the brothels, the bulk of the resident population is becoming increasingly riddled with venereal disease while the condition of affairs among the middle class Chinese is "already terrible." Ironically enough the only remedy the medical men can see is in that "hated" regulated prostitution which the Viscountess Astor is so anxious to have abolished here!

Truly reformer's zeal was never more fantastically, never more dangerously misplaced; never were its possible consequences more real and terrible. Therefore the Colony may well hope that the mischief will not be allowed to get beyond its present stage, and that we shall be left to conduct our own affairs in peace without any tragic interference from well-meaning but quite ignorant and wholly incompetent outside meddlers.

COMRADES IN ARMS.

AN OLD SOLDIER WANDERS.

AND FADES BACK TO CANTON.

Wandering about the upper floors of the Central Police Station on Thursday evening, Muk Chan-wing who claimed to be an old soldier whose regiment had been disbanded at Kongmoon, was charged before Mr. G. N. Orme this morning with trespassing. Detective-Inspector Appleton, prosecuting, stated that "a

lot of arms" were kept in the quarters. Defendant's story was that whilst in Canton, he had heard that Li Pat—a two months' comrade in Wuchow—was in the House of Detention at Hongkong and he, accordingly came down to inquire for him.

His Worship held the view that it was not safe to assume that defendant went with any bad intention and sanctioned a suggestion by the police that the old soldier be repatriated by tonight's boat. Defendant thanked the Court profusely as he left the dock.

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EMPIRE SQUADRON.

ABUNDANT SINGAPORE HOSPITALITY.

(From Our Own Correspondent.)

SINGAPORE, February 15.
The First Light Cruiser Squadron leaves for Australia on Sunday after a week largely spoilt by continuous rain interfering with the sporting events.

However, there was abundant hospitality ashore and afloat. An impressive march of the naval brigade 1,700 strong took place to-day.

ENGINEER'S BALL.

LAST NIGHT'S BRILLIANT SUCCESS.

The Engineers' Ball, as the annual supper of the Institution of Engineers and Shipbuilders has come to be known, passed off at the City Hall last night with its customary brilliancy. Greenery and bunting in gay profusion, illuminated crests, and a tasteful display of flowers combined to make an effective setting in which upwards of 800 revellers spent the merriest of evenings.

A capital supper was served in the Theatre where the guests of honour joined the President (Mr. S. Baker) at a table arranged horse shoe fashion on the stage. The Hongkong Hotel did the catering and the orchestra furnished the excellent dance music. Refreshment bars were to be found downstairs and an innovation was the providing of a special card-room for the use of His Excellency the Governor who attended with Lady Stubbs.

Very great credit is due the Ball officials, whose names appeared in the China Mail yesterday and who, it was patent, had worked exceedingly hard to make last night's event the success it undoubtedly proved.

THE GOLF CLUB.

PREVIOUS RESOLUTIONS CONFIRMED.

At an extraordinary meeting of the members of the Royal Hongkong Golf Club, held in the Board Room of Messrs. Jardine Matheson & Co., last evening the resolutions adopted at the Meeting on January 28 were confirmed.

The first resolution increased the entrance fee from \$30 to \$50, and the second dealt with the suspension of members. It gave the Committee power to suspend any member from the use of the Club for any period not exceeding six months, but with liberty for the Committee to terminate such suspension at their discretion; provided that no member be suspended unless a resolution shall have been passed by a majority of at least two thirds of the members of the Committee. If the conduct of any member is likely to endanger the character or good order of the Club, it is provided that an extraordinary general meeting shall be called for the purpose of considering expulsion.

The Captain of the Club (Mr. J. B. Ross) presided over the meeting, and was supported by Messrs. A. B. Stewart, L. S. Greenhill, A. H. Ferguson, H. U. Ireland and H. S. Hill (Secretary).

The confirmatory resolution was proposed by Mr. A. B. Stewart and seconded by the Chairman, and passed unanimously.

The Chairman mentioned that the Interport team was leaving for Manila to-day and wished them the best of luck and a good time.

Troublesome Coughs.
A troublesome, sleep-disturbing night cough can be cured by taking Chamberlain's Cough Remedy. You will like the soothing, healing effect it puts on the inflamed lining of the throat and the prompt relief which the second dose brings.

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Estimates furnished on application.

Hongkong, April 1, 1912.

Fish.			
Barbel, —Ka Yu...	lb.	28	19
Bream, —Pin Yu...	...	28	20
Canton Fresh Water Fish...			
Hoi Sin Yu...	...	22	18
Carp, —Li Yu...	...	30	18
Catfish, —Chik Yu...	...	44	12
Codfish, —Man Yu...	...	30	20
Craw, —Hsi...	...	46	23
Cuttle Fish, —Mak Yu...	...	28	16
Dab, —Sha Mang Yu...	...	35	23
Dace, —Wong Mei Lap...	...	18	10
Duck, —Tio To Sha...	...	12	10
Eels, Conger, —Hoi Man...	...	24	16
Fresh water, —Tam Shui Yu...	...	30	20
Yellow —Wong Siu...	...	45	28
Frog, —Tin Kal...	...	61	22
Garoupa, —Shet Pan...	...	70	40
Gudgeon, —Kop Kap Yu...	...	30	18
Herring, —Tao Pak...	...	30	22
Halibut, —Cheung Kwan Kap...	...	27	18
Labeo, —Wong Fa Yu...	...	30	22
Loach, —Wu Yu...	...	63	24
Lobster, —Lung Hsi...	...	50	32
Mackerel, —Chi Yu...	...	30	20
Mont Fish, —Mong Yu...	...	40	22
Mullet, —Tsi Yu...	...	34	18
Parrot, —Shang Ho...	...	35	16
Perch Fish, —Kai Kung Yu...	...	23	14
Perch, —Tao Lo...	...	30	20
Pike, —Pa Pao Fong...	...	16	18
Pisces, —Pan Yu...	...	51	23
Pomfret, Black, —Hek Chong...	...	35	26
Pomfret, White, Pak Chong...	...	40	36
Prawn, —Ming Ea...	...	65	38
Ray, —Pai Fa Sha...	...	10	10
Roof Fish, —Shek Kai Kung...	...	22	13
Salmon, —Oam Yu...	...	59	32
Salmon, —Ma Yau...	...	60	34
Shark, —Sha Yu...	...	12	8
Skate, —Po Yu...	...	30	10
Skipper, —Hsi...	...	55	35
Snapper, —Lap Yu...	...	43	28
Sole, —Tsi Sha Yu...	...	30	22
Tench, —Wan Yu...	...	26	18
Turbot, —Tso Hui Yu...	...	30	20
Turbot, small fresh water, —Yu...	...	12	40

	January 11, June 1904.		1912		June 1914
	Oms.	Oms.	Oms.	Oms.	Oms.
Chloren, — Kai	1b.	25	30	—	31
Capon, Small, — Sin Kai	...	35	30	—	30
Capon, Large, — Sin Kai	...	50	25	—	30
Duck, — Ap	...	25	25	—	25
Dove, — Pao Kai	Beach	...	...	—	...
Eggs, Hen, — Kai Tan (cocking) per doz.	...	30	16	—	...
Eggs, Hen, — Kai Tan (fresh)	per doz.	30	25	30	...
Fowl, Canton, — Kai Tan	...	30	36	34	...
Fowl, Hainan, — Ho Kai	...	40	25	—	...
Geese, — Canton	...	40	34	—	34
Pigeons, Canton, — Pak Kap, each	...	50	30	—	...
Hobbs, — Boi Hoo Pak Kap	...	...	...	—	...
Turkeys, Cook, — Fo Kai Kung	1b.	60	60	5	...
Turkeys, Hen, — Fo Kai Na	...	25	15	—	...
Snipe, — Sha Tan	each	...	25	—	...
Pheasant, — Shan Kai	...	1.75	—	—	...
Quail, — Oms Choo	...	30	—	—	...
Partridge, — Oms Ku	...	30	—	—	...

Almonds, — Hang Yan lb. 60	35
Apples, (California), — Kam Shan Piao Bo lb. 24	24
Bananas, (Hindu's), — Sam Hong Chai 5	4
Cashews, — Yang To 12	—
Cocoanuts, — Ye Tuo each 11	10
Lemon, China, — Ling Mung lb. 10	7
Lemon, (America), — Kam Shan Ling Mung each 5	5
Liches, Dried, (small stone), — Lai Chi Kon lb. 28	28
Oranges, (Canton), Sweet, — Shan-sheng Tin Chang lb. 12	10
Oranges, Tin Chang 12	—
Pears, (Canton), Cooking, — Sha Li 18	15
Peaches, — Fa Shang 13	10
Pomegranates, Large, — Hung Tuo 13	—
Plum, — Tai Chin 5	3
Pumpkin, Stam, — Tam Lo Yan each 12	12
Walnuts, — Hop To lb. 18	16
Grapes, — Po Tai Yau 20	20

Artichokes, — Ah Chi Cheuk	5	7
Beans, Sprout, — Ngai Tsoi	b	5
" Long, — Yai Kok	13	8
Beet Root, — Hung Tait Tsu	5	8
Bitter Squash, — Yu Kwai	10	—
Brinjals, Green, — Ching Yan Kwai	8	5
" Red, — Han Kwei	8	5
Cabbage Chinese, (common), —		
" Kai Toai	5	12
" (Shanghai) — Ya Toi	12	13
Cass Root, bunch, — Kan Sham	4	—
Cauliflower (Large), — Ya Toi Fa mah	16	—
(Medium),	13	—
(Small),	10	—
Carrots, — Kam Shun	lb	6
Celery Chinese, — Tong Kan Toi	10	10
Chillies, Dried, — Kon Lai Chia	30	25
" Red, — Hung Fa Chia	12	10
" Green, — Ching Lai Chia	12	8
Curry Stalk, English, — Ka Li Chee	lb	10
"	10	10
Cucumbers, — Gung Kwa	each	3
Garlic, — Sun Tau	lb	8
Ginger young, — Su Tse Keng	10	7
Ginger, old, — Lo Keng	10	10
Horseradish, Shanghai, — Lik Kan	25	45
Indian Corn, — Shuk Mai	each	6
Lettuces, — Yeung Shung Tsai	lb	1
Water Chestnuts, — Mai Tai	lb	6
" Mandarin, — Kwai		
" Lam Mei	12	10
Mushrooms, Fresh, — Shang To Ku	lb	8
Okroos	1	10
Onions, Bombay, — Yeung Chung Tau	lb	8
Onions, Green, — Shang Chung	lb	4
Onions, Shanghai, — Sheung-hoi		
" Chung Tau	8	6
Parsley, — Kun Toi	30	80
Potato, Sweet, — Fan Shui	5	3
" Japanese, — Yat Fun Shui Tai	lb	5
" American, — Fa Ki Shui Tai	lb	6
Pumpkin, — Tung Kwa	lb	3
Radish, — Hung Lo Pak Tai	5	—
Rhubarb (French), — Lik Wong	8	10
Shallots, — Kong Cheung Tau	6	8
Spinach, — Yin Toi	6	4
Tomatoes, — Fan Kie	4	7
Taroos, — Wu Tai	4	6
Turnips, Punt, (Long), — Lo Pak	5	4
Vegetable Marrow, — Tsch Kwai	4	—
Water Cress, — Sui Yeung Toi	8	12
" Little Root, — Lin Ngan	10	6
"	5	—

DESTINATION	STEAMERS	SAILING
.....	HANGSANG	16th Feb. Noon.
.....	SUBANG	16th Feb. 11 a.m.
.....	TAKANG	17th Feb. 7 a.m.
.....	LEESANG	17th Feb. 10 a.m.
.....	HOONGSHING	18th Feb. 7 a.m.
.....	USANG	20th Feb. 7 a.m.
.....	WAHSING	22nd Feb. Noon.
.....	HOANG	23rd Feb. Noon.
.....	HINSANG	26th Feb. 1 p.m.
.....	KUTSANG	27th Feb. 2 p.m.
.....	OHPEISING	28th Mar. Noon.

Calcutta	Line.—This line now affords regular sailings to Calcutta, Penang and Singapore returning from Calcutta after having proceeded via HKangai and Hongkong to Japan, occasionally calling at Shanghai. All steamers have excellent passenger accommodations, are fitted with wireless and radio apparatus, and are fully equipped with life-saving gear.
Changhai	Line.—Sailings approximately every three days from Canton and Shanghai, sometimes calling at Swatow. Through tickets can be obtained and through Bills of Lading are issued to all North China ports.
Hankow	Line.—A weekly service is maintained with Maaila by vessels with good passenger accommodations, and with Hongkong by vessels with excellent passenger accommodations.
Hongkong	Line.—Sailings approximately weekly for passengers and cargo, calling at Hothow before reaching Hongkong.
Jerome	Line.—Formerly sailings to and from Sandakan by two 5000 ton steamers S.S. "HUNGANG" and S.S. "MAUSANG" both steamers having excellent passenger accommodations. Current sailings to Sandakan by the S.S. "Lading" for Kanton, Swatow, Labuan, Taiwan and Laha, dated.
Penang	Line.—A regular service is run from Penang to Swatow, between Hongkong and Penang, and occasionally to Hongkong via Swatow.
Singapore	Line.—A weekly service is provided between Hongkong and Bangkok via Swatow, by the S.S. "Lading" and "Lading" for Kanton, Swatow, Labuan, Taiwan and Laha, dated.

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YOKOHAMA MARU Sunday, 8th Mar. at 11 a.m.

MARSHILLES, LONDON & ANTWERP via Singapore &c.

HAKODAKI MARU Wednesday, 8th March at 11 a.m.

HAKOSAN MARU Friday, 15th March

HAMBURG via LONDON & ROTTERDAM

LIVERPOOL	via MARSHMOLLS & VALENZUELA		
DURBAN MARU	... ..	Middle of March	
SYDNEY & MELBOURNE	via Manila &c.		
AKI MARU...	... ..	Sunday,	17th Feb. at 11 a.m.
TANGO MARU...	... ..	Wednesday,	19th March
NEW YORK & BOSTON via PANAMA			
LISBON-MARU	... ..	Sunday,	9th March
BUENOS AIRES via S'ports, Durban & Cape Town.			
KANAKAWA MARU ... ..	... ..	Sunday,	18th Feb. at 8 p.m.
(calling Delagoa Bay Port Isaac)			
BOMBAY via Singapore, Penang & Colombo.			
MUBORAN MARU...	... ..	Friday,	26th February
LIMA MARU ... ..	... ..	Monday,	10th March
CALCUTTA via Singapore, Penang & Rangoon.			
YAMAGATA MARU ... ..	... ..	Tuesday,	13th February
WASAKA MARU	... ..	Tuesday,	11th March
NAGASAKI, KOBE & YOKOHAMA.			
YOSHINO MARU...	... ..	Thursday,	12th March
SEANGHAI, KOBE & YOKOHAMA.			
HABURA MARU		Monday,	18th February
AWA MARU		Monday,	18th February
HABURA MARU		Tuesday,	26th February

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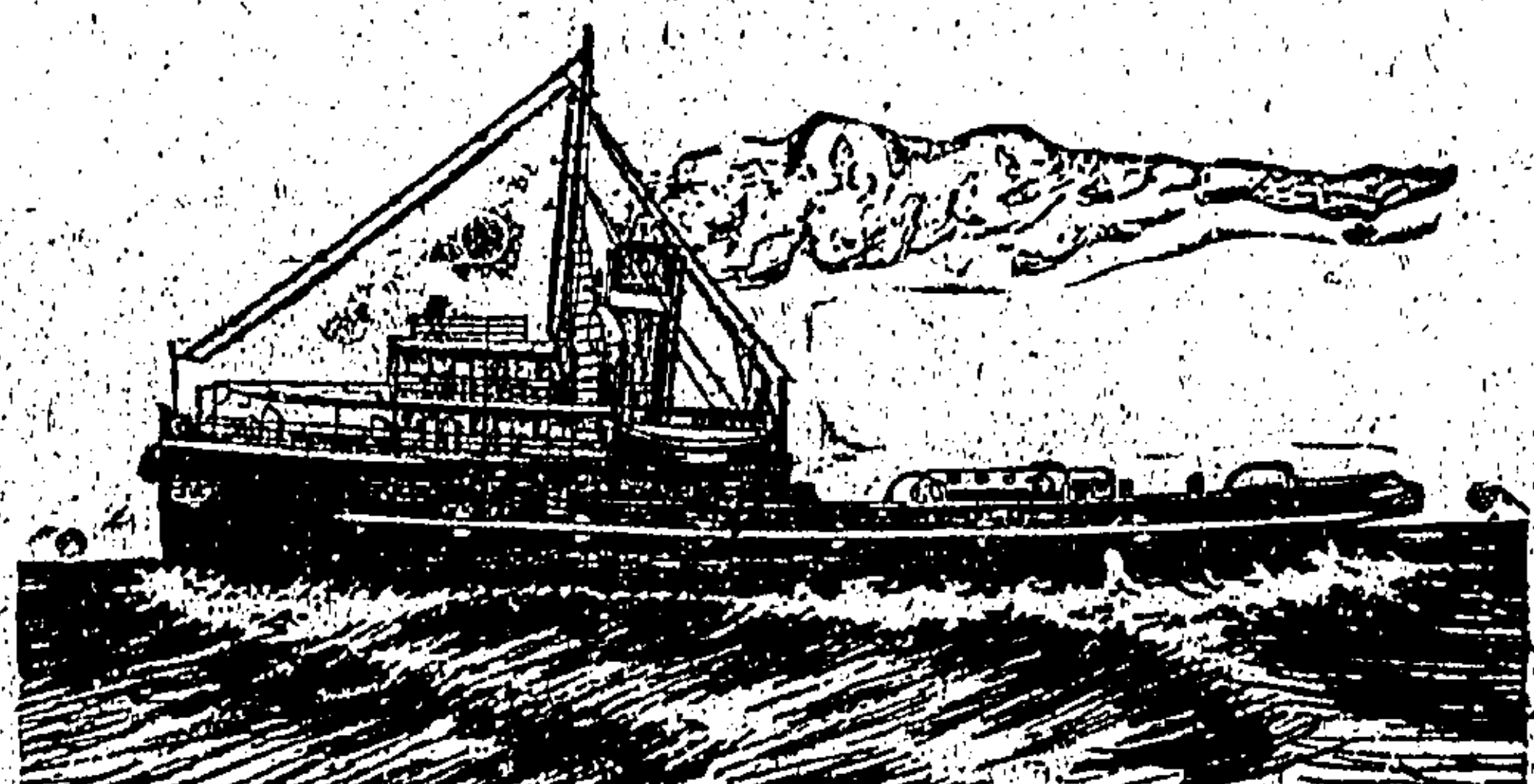
SAILINGS FROM HONGKONG

S.S. - "ALBERT VOEGELI"	on or about 28th March.
"Chas. Lenn"	on or about 30th April
S.S. - "ADELPH V. BAREN"	

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RACE WEEK

Special Announcements
HONGKONG HOTEL

THURSDAY, February 21st.

DERBY NIGHT

SPECIAL DINNER DANSANT

— IN —

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JAZZ ORCHESTRA

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HONGKONG.

LUCKY POLICEMEN.

WIN BIG CHAMPIONS PRIZE
AT SHANGHAI.

\$77,000 FOR THREE OFFICERS.

Dame Fortune has smiled beneficently on three Shanghai policemen. While on duty at Kiangwan Racecourse, (Shanghai) during the I.R.C. New Year Races, they bought a single ticket in the Champions' Sweepstakes. The ticket was one of the last, but it was the lucky one. It drew the favourite and the favourite ran true to form and cleared the till at the cash sweep counter for the three policemen—a return of over \$77,000 for their investment of \$10. The three fortunate men are all sub-inspectors. Sub-Ins. Milne of Central Station is well-known in sporting circles particularly as a member of the Clay Pigeon Club. He was third on the list in the 1923 championship and is a familiar figure on Nanking Road where he daily superintends the traffic. Sub-Ins. Jones, familiarly known as "Bill," was in his younger days a champion swimmer and took part years ago in the famous swim from Garden Bridge to the Points. He is vice-president of the International Swimming Club and is stationed at Hongkew. Sub-Ins. Ockwell is also well identified in sporting circles chiefly in the lawn tennis section. He is one of the tallest policemen in Shanghai and is attached to the Western District. He is the only married man in the trio.

Another sub-inspector also had a windfall. S.I. Jack Selvey was one of the two people who received the record Far Eastern dividend of \$5,730 which was returned on the pony Pennsylvania, ridden by Mr. Encarnacao on Champions Day.

And they say a policeman's life is not a happy one!

BANK MYSTERY.

\$40,000 LOSS ADMITTED.

SUBSTANTIAL REWARD OFFERED.

Although the Police have been reticent over the loss of \$40,000 by the compradore department of the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank, as first reported in the *China Mail* of the Monday before last, a reward of \$1,000 and 25 per cent. of the sum recovered has now been offered for the arrest of a shroff alleged to have absconded.

It appears that he is accused of having paid out \$40,000 in notes to a confederate and that in doing so, he took a forged cheque from the Current Accounts department to the paying-out counter without having presented it for scrutiny and approval by the Bank official. This is supposed to have been a blind but the forged cheque is also missing.

As regards the sum of \$3,000 stated to have been erroneously paid out against a cheque for \$300, proceedings were held at the Magistracy yesterday and remanded till Monday. Mr. M. K. Lo is prosecuting for the Bank's compradore (Mr. Ho Wing) and Mr. F. C. Jenkin, barrister-at-law, instructed by Mr. F. G. Vaux will defend.

LOCAL AND GENERAL.

To-day's *Government Gazette* contains the new regulations relating to launches and motor boats prescribing the number of passengers that shall be carried, the lifebelts, the fire-extinguishers, the cargo, etc. Certain vessels are liable to stability tests.

Mr. D. B. McKenzie Bone, of the Takoo Dock and Engineering Co., has been given permission to use and publish in the Colony for a period of nine months an invention of "Valve gear for direct acting pumps" without prejudice to the Letters Patent to be granted for the invention.

This morning's police reports state that a Chinese girl, 11 years of age, was knocked down and killed by motor bus No. 648 in Hungghom yesterday. She is said to have been walking to Kowloon City and was struck when near the Leather Factory, by the bus which was proceeding in the same direction. The driver was detained at the time but subsequently released.

From Canton comes the news that Hunan troops under Dr. Sun, have refused to embark for the East River front even on the promise of \$200,000 in cash. They are quoted as insisting that the provincial revenues be evenly divided before they will fight. This is interpreted as an effort to nibble at the revenues now controlled by the Yunnan contingent.

SEA INROADS.

BEACHY HEAD CRUMBLING.

The peculiar run of the local tides and several recent storms have practically denuded the western beaches at Eastbourne of shingle and have exposed the sea wall right down to its rocky foundation. The corporation have spent large sums of money in the erection of groynes to try to form a barrier against the sea, but in vain.

During the last storm waves broke against the wall of the Royal Parade and built the beach up in the roadway, while the water broke over the promenade in huge volumes. The western parades are now practically emptied of beach.

Towards Langney Point the sea has eaten into the land, undermining a Martello tower, which has had to be demolished. Big falls of the cliff have occurred at Beachy Head and Birling Gap, and the coastguard station at Birling Gap is doomed. The Lloyd's signal hut on Beachy Head now stands right on the brink of the cliff, while the large coastguard station on the highest point of the Head is only 100 yards from the edge.

The local authorities are entirely at a loss to know how to get the beach to remain on the shore, although the best marine engineers in the country have been consulted.

Mustapha Kemal Pasha has left Angora for a rest cure, and is likely to be absent for some time. The question of appointing an Acting-President has, it is believed, been left in the hands of the Assembly.

TO-DAY'S
ADVERTISEMENTS.

RACE HOLIDAYS.

THE EXCHANGE BANKS will open for the transaction of Public Business at 9.30 a.m. on WEDNESDAY, THURSDAY, and FRIDAY, the 20th, 21st and 22nd instant, and close at 12 Noon.

Hongkong, 14th February, 1924.

TO LET.

TO LET—No. 2, Queen's Road Central, the premises at present occupied by the "Pharmacy." Apply to China & Japan Telephone & Electric Co., Ltd.

WORLD
THEATRE

Des Voeux Road Central

SUNDAY, MONDAY
AND TUESDAY.17th, 18th & 19th
February.

A SPECIAL ALL-COMEDY PROGRAMME

A RIOT OF BRAND-NEW 1923 COMEDIES
Selected by Pathe's Representative during
his trip through America and Europe out
of Hundreds of Comedies.

MERMAID COMEDIES

THE GREATEST TWO-REEL GLOOM-CHASERS
OF THE YEAR

"THREE STRIKES"

The Zippiest, Peppiest, Snappiest, Comedy
You Have Ever Cracked A Rib Over.

THEN COME

"THE SUPRISE"

An "OUT of the Inkwell" Cartoon Comedy

YOU WILL ALSO ENJOY

FELIX THE CAT

"STRIKES IT RICH"

"THE GLOBE TROTTERS"

The cleverest, most amusing and fastest action
cartoons ever offered for the screen.

Come and Laugh Your Worries Away!

You'll Laugh Until Your
Face Warps!TO-DAY'S
ADVERTISEMENTS.G. R.
HONGKONG TECHNICAL
INSTITUTE.

THE INSTITUTE will Re-open on
MONDAY, February 18th.
Students will be enrolled at the
Education Department, only, and
should apply at once for entry forms.
Hongkong, 16th February, 1924.

ROYAL HONGKONG GOLF CLUB.

NOTICE.

LADIES' SECTION.

CUP PRESENTED BY
COL. HILL.

QUALIFYING round to be played
on MONDAY, 25th February,
1924, 18 Holes Medal play under
handicap over Reilly Course, Fan-
ling. First eight to qualify and
play off by Match Play. In the
Event of a tie for the last place,
the lowest handicap player to
qualify.

Roll handicap allowed.
R. D. MITCHELL,
Hon. Secretary.
Hongkong, 16th February, 1924.

PUBLIC AUCTIONS

THE Undersigned have received
instructions to sell by Public
Auction,

on
TUESDAY, February 19, 1924,
commencing at 2.30 p.m.
at their Sales Rooms, Duddell Street,
4 Astronomical Telescope,
4 Myers Telescopes,
1 Field Glass,
4 Binoculars,
11 Officers' Anter Covers 310 x 90,
1 Large Silver Centre Piece,
4 Silver bowls.

And
1 Cabinet Gramophone,
1 "Tah Teo" Anglo Chinese
Dictionary (3 Volumes),
Terms:—Cash on delivery.

LAMBERT BROS.,
Auctioneers.

on
TUESDAY, February 19, 1924,
commencing at 11 a.m.
at Godown No. 25 The Hongkong
Kowloon Wharf & Godown Co., Ltd.,
Kowloon.

(for account of the concerned)
234 Coils Galvanized Wire
(more or less damaged)
Terms:—Cash on delivery.

LAMBERT BROS.,
Auctioneers.
Hongkong, 16th February, 1924

DAIRY FARM NEWS.

CHEESE

Now obtainable at
our Depot and Branches.

Picnic (own make)	80 cents per jar.
Coulommier (own make)	40 " " pat.
New Zealand Cream	70 " " lb.
Australian Cheddar	75 " " "
Kraft Canadian	80 " " "

Cheddar

Quality and flavour unexcelled.

FIX YOUR ROOFS WITH

Semi-Liquid Asbestos
RoofingCARBO-LASTIC
and
Waterproofing
CompoundSTOPS LEAKS IN ANY ROOF.
PRESERVES NEW ROOFS.
REBUILDS OLD WORN-OUT ROOFS.
WATERPROOF FOUNDATIONS.

ADEQUATELY GUARANTEED.

AGENTS:—DODWELL & CO., LTD.
MACHINERY DEPARTMENT.

SENNET FRERES

JUST ARRIVED!

A NEW STOCK OF BEAUTIFUL

FRENCH

JEWELLERY

NOW ON VIEW AT OUR

NEW PREMISES IN

PEDDER STREET

(OPPOSITE HONGKONG HOTEL)

HONGKONG GARAGE.

(Wanchai—Opposite Daibutsu's)

NEW CARS FOR SALE & HIRE

Telephone C. 4006.

Expert Repairs, Painters and Overhaulers.

Oushion and Seat Cover Manufacturers.

Top Rebuilders

Prompt Service at Moderate Prices.

Tires and Accessories for Sale.

Gasoline and Oil Suppliers.

LAM WING YAN,
Manager.We are manufacturers of
Felt Hats, Straw Hats,
Linen Hats, Toques, etc.Manufactured in
HONGKONG
by the

NAM YUEH HAT FACTORY

25-27, Des Voeux Road.

MEE WAH KNITTING & DYEING CO.

General Knitter & Dyers

Manufacturers of: Woolen Hosiery, Jerseys, Sweaters, &
all kinds of Underwear.

No. 1-14, Causeway Bay.

Telephone Central 1301.
Manager: YUENG POEWA.

THE YUEN WO STORE

Harbour Repairs.

Engineering & Building Contractors, General Repairs & Shipchandlers.

Office: No. 28, Causeway Bay, Hong Kong. Phone Central 2560.

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Tel. Kowloon 1234.

Tel. Kowloon 1234.

Tel. Kowloon 1234.

TO-DAY at
12.15, 2.30, 5.15, 7.15, & 9.15

LAST SHOWING OF UNIVERSAL'S SUPER JEWEL THUNDERING DAWN

with
J. Warren Kerrigan
and
Anna Q. Nilsson
THE CORONET

"THE GIRL I LOVED."
A BIG MAN'S BIG LOVE
STORY FILMED.

JAMES WHITCOMB RILEY ROMANCE.

Hidden away from most of his fellow countrymen for years because of a sensitive modesty, the most interesting adventure of a great American is now brought to the knowledge of the masses by Charles Ray.

In a vivid and compelling picturization of "The Girl I Loved," made for United Artists, and booked for to-morrow at the Coronet Theatre, this popular star of the screen draws from practical observation the personal romance of James Whitcomb Riley as described by him in a poem that he finally withheld from his published works when its intimate revelations were disclosed as his own.

Mr. Riley passionately loved a maid and when he was about to claim her, as he too confidently believed, a rival appeared. Out of this dual struggle for the hand of a girl grew a network of tragic events which exemplifies the maxim that "there is a drama in every home."

"The Girl I Loved," as its title implies, is the quintessence of romance, with Charles Ray portraying the pet-tossed on the billows of stormy circumstance. This popular actor is said to rise magnificently to the demands of this passionate drama of real life. He regards the role as unquestionably his best effort, and the play his premier achievement.

Back of this golden glow of romance runs a graphic panorama of life in rural Indiana in 1840-50, done with the most careful fidelity after exhaustive research. In fact "The Girl I Loved" is heralded as more than a compelling entertainment; it is historically important as an authentic picture of American life that is not seen by this generation.

This setting for the Riley love story is merry, animated and picturesque with the mementos of a care-free and innocent people composed of what seem to us many quaint anatomical types. There is a prelude to the picture which presents Mr. Ray enacting the boy Riley as a staid youth—a guise in which thousands have come to love him—his lively, amusing and finely-etched characterizations.

There is an abundance of light and shade in "The Girl I Loved." It is alternately gay with laughter and sad with tears—that composition elements for which dramatists are always striving.

An important fact is the girl of the piece. Mr. Ray chose for the part from a list of the youngest and as he believed the most talented leading ladies of the screen, Fatsy Ralston. Certainly she is one of the most beautiful. She is almost parallel in promise with the star through the picture and is said to give a remarkable performance. Ramsey Wakar, a sterling actor best known the stage; Eddy Chapman, a other prominent players are the large cast.

Joseph De Grassi has directed several of Ray's latest successes, including a previous United Artists picture, "A Tailor-Made Man," in which he also for "The Girl I Loved."

NEW BARRIE PICTURE.
"SENTIMENTAL TOMMY"
FILMED.

Another famous work of Sir James M. Barrie, noted English playwright and novelist, has been picturized by Paramount. This is "Sentimental Tommy," cherished by many as the most outstanding book of their childhood.

Those who were interested in Paramount's version of "The Admirable Crichton," done under the title of "Male and Female," and "Half an Hour," with Dorothy Dalton, will welcome another Barrie picture, "What Every Woman Knows," portrayed by Maude Adams on the stage, was also made by Paramount.

"Sentimental Tommy" is an example of the bigger and better possibilities of the screen. Beginning with Tommy as a boy, it takes him through many entrancing episodes until he reaches maturity. Gareth Hughes, plays Tommy, and May McAvoy is seen as Grizel. Mabel Taliaferro and George Fawcett have big roles.

PORTER STRONG.
GENUINE CINEMA
COMEDIAN.

Porter Strong, the humorous and beloved Romeo Washington of the new D. W. Griffith picture, "One Exciting Night," literally started at the foot of the ladder in "medicine shows," went up a peg to minstrelsy and finally blossomed forth as a "singing waiter" in far Western cafes where the attendants were supposed to "deliver the goods" both in song and bodily refreshment.

He became known as the country's best "coon shouter" and coming East won first prize at a great public coon-shouting contest in Madison Square Garden, New York. His associates at that time were chaps who afterward became famous under the names of Irving Berlin and Al Jolson.

At the peak of his success as cabaret entertainer Porter Strong's annual income ranged from \$15,000 to \$30,000 a year. Griffith claims he engaged Strong on the latter's first visit to Hollywood because Porter stuttered so that no one could make head or tail of what he was saying, and the comic thus proved his fitness, for the job by his grimaces in trying to get application for work out of his system.

He is a native of St. Joseph, Mo., and his earlier life story is a romance that somebody is some day going to put into a book.

NORMA TALMADGE.

STRUGGLE WITH OLD
WOMAN MAKE-UP.

You'd never recognize Norma Talmadge these days.

In her latest First National picture, "Secrets," Norma spends four hours each day making up as an aged woman for the final sequences of her photoplay.

Norma arrives early at the studio and with the assistance of George Westmore, her make-up artist, spends the better part of each morning preparing for her appearance on the set. And when Norma has finished her make-up at 11 a.m. one would never recognize her for the same person who came in the studio at 7 a.m.

In this Joseph M. Schenck production Norma plays four roles, that of a girl, a young mother, a middle aged matron and an aged woman. The picture is cast in four periods, 1923, 1933, 1970 and 1865 and the action takes place both in the far West and in modern society settings. In all four periods Norma displays a remarkable range of characterization.

Frank Borzage, of "Humoresque" fame, is directing "Secrets" with the veteran Gaetano Guadio as his cameraman. Heading Norma's supporting cast is Eugene O'Brien, "the perfect lover" and a famous star of both stage and screen.

The beautiful gowns were designed by Clare West while Stephen Goossion, noted art director, created the massive sets. The photoplay was adapted by Frances Marion from the famous stage play of the same title.

CROSSROADS OF NEW YORK.

THRILLER TAKES LIFE IN
HANDS FOR DIZZY LEAP.

Among the unsung heroes are the anonymous members of screen companies who are obliged to take tremendous risks, not for any immediate material advantage, but simply in the hope that their feat may catch the eye of a director and win them a reward at some future time. The position of these players (they are usually extras) is all the more pathetic because very few of them are ever heard of. Either they sink into oblivion in minor roles or decide that the risk is not worth the game. In the latter case they may be found at some later date in a business office—generally keeping books or checking up on time clocks.

Witness, for example, the thrilling train wreck filmed in King

CINEMA CHATTER.



CHARLES RAY in "THE GIRL I LOVED"

DOUGLAS
FAIRBANKS

IS
COMING
BACK
IN

"THE MARK
OF ZORRO"

Vidor's "Love Never Dies." An entire company was plunged into a raging torrent. While every possible precaution had been taken to insure against fatalities or serious injuries, there was a certain degree of risk attached to the stunt. The hazards were faced by a score or more extras, not one of whom received a line of screen credit.

Likewise, in Mack Sennett's "Molly O," Mabel Normand and George Nichols alternated in jumping from the roof of a burning shed, a stunt attended with considerable risk. The presence of a life net below was a small consolation, especially to Mr. Nichols, who was required by the scenario to break right through the net in one fall and land soundly on dear old Mother Earth.

The latest addition to the role of screen heroes, however, is the actor who performs a fall in Mack Sennett's latest six reel comedy-melodrama "The Crossroads of New York."

When the irate Wall Street magnate is kept a prisoner in a country mansion by an unscrupulous villain who seeks to disrupt the stock market, it becomes the duty of this actor to come to his rescue from the roof of the building. The balcony, which constitutes the only means of access to the imprisoned man's room, overhangs a cliff with a sheer drop of one hundred feet.

To the eyes of the astounded audience, the would-be-rescuer

DOG HOWLS.

PET CAUSES TROUBLE
DURING FILMING.

Because "Mickey," a young bull pup belonging to Douglas MacLean, disrupted an entire evening's work on the young star's latest Paramount comedy, "One a Minute," showing at The Star for the last time to-night, canines of all species, unless they take part in productions, have been banished from the Thomas H. Ince studios, in California.

When the exciting election night scenes of "One a Minute" were being filmed, MacLean brought his dog along for an evening's outing. Mickey was orderly until the election bands began to play and MacLean mounted a soap box to make an address of thanks to the citizens who had elected him their mayor.

With the first note of the trombone, Mickey poked his nose toward the moon and commenced a vocal accompaniment. The election "crowd," primed for excitement, roared with laughter, and the scene was spoiled. With order restored, a second attempt was made to film the spectacle. Again Mickey gave vent to howls, and the action was suspended. After several more trials to attain gravity, each of which Mickey broke up with song, the harmonious sound was led from the studios, and the scene completed. The following morning the ban on dogs was posted.

misses his footing, clutches blindly at the railing of the balcony and then passes out of sight in the bottomless abyss below.

Of course, the audience knows he wasn't really killed. They are aware that a life net was stretched below to save him.

But that doesn't make up for the risk he ran: A life net at best is a very narrow contraption. A real slip might have meant oblivion. The actor who took the part was taking a good deal more. He took his life in his hands when he made the fall into the general direction of the net.

TO-NIGHT at 5.30

SIXTY LAUGHS IN SIXTY MINUTES

DOUGLAS MACLEAN

in

"ONE A MINUTE"

at 9.15 p.m.

KOWLOON DOCKS A.D.C.

present

THE RAJAH OF RAJAHPORE

SUNDAY at 8 p.m.

THE FAITH HEALER

(Another "Miracle Man")

at 9.15 p.m.

ORCHESTRAL CONCERT

THE STAR

THE MARK OF ZORRO.

THE RETURN OF DOUGLAS
FAIRBANKS.

It will be good news to those who missed it in August last and also to those wise ones among picture-goers who do not mind seeing a good film twice that "The Mark of Zorro" is coming back to the Coronet on Thursday next.

"Doug" has one of the best chances of his screen career in the dual character. First as the nonchalant, sap-headed, honey-drinking individual who makes tricks out of his handkerchief and amuses himself by making shadows with his fingers, as against the rolicking swordsman, fighter and rider that Zorro was. Zorro is the individual who is attempting to bring justice to Southern California and rid that country of its despotic governors. In the end of course, it is discovered that Zorro and the mild, easy-going Don Diego are one and the same, and there is much jubilation and a wonderful clutch where the lady's finger tips show how much she is enjoying the embrace, which occurs behind a handkerchief.

"THE GILDED LILY."

SPECIAL STORY FOR FAMOUS
STAR.

Mae Murray, famous Paramount star and dancer, has been provided with a picture story of great dramatic power which was especially written for her by Clara Beranger. It is "The Gilded Lily," and it will be the feature attraction at the Star Theatre for three days, beginning on Thursday next. Robert Z. Leonard, husband of the star, made the production.

The story fits Mae Murray like a glove and presents her in the

role in which she first became famous—a dancer. All of the scenes are laid in New York.

Lilly Drake, dancer of the Club Royale, is the type of girl that is all sham and rough on the exterior, but real and true when the tarnish and tinsel are off. She is sought by many men, including a typical New York man-about-town and a youth from the country. In the contest between them to win her hand and in the final incidents, Miss Beranger has given an unusual twist that is declared to be entirely original and will place the picture in the front rank for its story value.

The two leading roles are played by Lowell Sherman, as the New York man-about-town, and Jason Robards, as the country boy.

MARY PICKFORD.

AND KING CHARLEMAGNE'S
TOMB.

With the recent opening by the Prussian government of the tomb of King Charlemagne in Aix-la-Chapelle, a city of Prussia, the Mary Pickford research department obtained valuable data for the duplication of fabrics, drawings, brocades and draperies used in Miss Pickford's forthcoming film production, "Dorothy Vernon of Haddon Hall," now well into production.

The opening of the ancient tomb revealed numerous patterns of brocades and fabrics that were prevalent during the reign of Queen Elizabeth and Miss Pickford's research workers made an exhaustive study of the discoveries. The data obtained is responsible for the authentic reproductions of fabrics and draperies used by Miss Pickford in her "Dorothy Vernon" work.

CHINESE GIRL.

PLAYS IN TWO MOVIE
ROLES.

Anna May Wong, the diminutive Chinese actress whose portrayal of Oriental roles has made her a famous figure in screenland, was a very busy girl during the making of "Thundering Dawn," Harry Garson's big spectacle of Java, produced for Universal. She also was playing in "Thief of Baghdad," Douglas Fairbanks' Arabian spectacle, at the Fairbanks studio.

She alternated between the Chinese girl in "Thundering Dawn"—a bit of sotsam in the maelstrom of the Orient's melting pot, and the Arabian miss in the Fairbanks picture, and had much ado to keep costumes, parts and other details straight in her hasty transition each day from one part to the other.

Miss Wong, engaged for the Garson picture, was suddenly given the opportunity of playing the second lead in the Baghdad story, a play on the nature of "Kismet." Garson solved the difficulty by arranging her hours in his picture to allow her ample opportunity to play the other role. It meant quick auto trips between studios, changes, sometimes, in the machine enroute, but the little Chinese actress had no trouble in filling both engagements successfully.

"Thundering Dawn" is now being shown at the Coronet Theatre.

There will be people who will NOT like

CHARLES RAY

in

"The Girl I Loved"

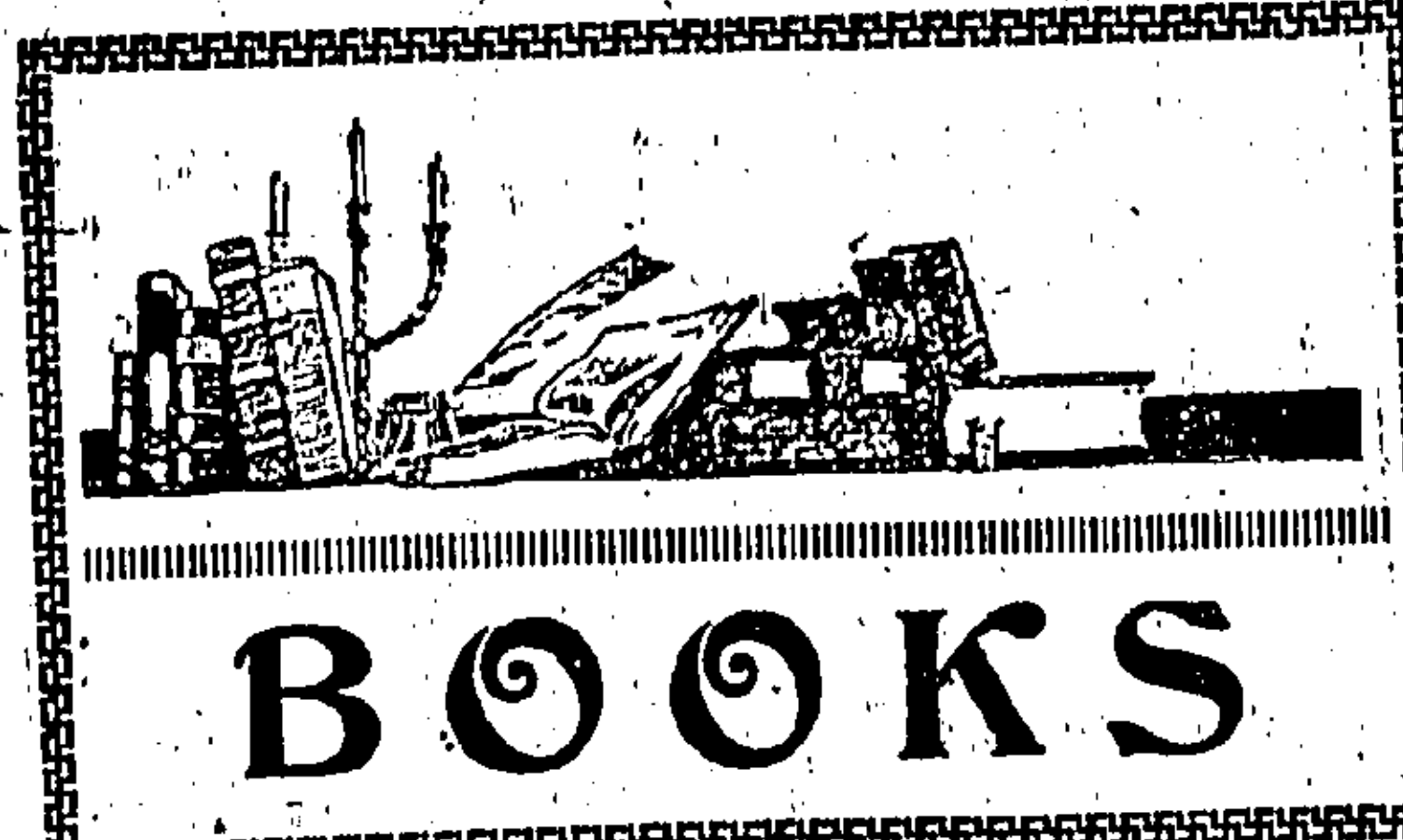
It is only fair, therefore, to let the public know exactly what they are to see!

Beautiful Photography—A Touching Story. Better Acting than one ever realised that Charlie Ray was capable of. And that Touch of Nature which makes the whole World Kin!

BUT—and we feel that we can afford to be Frank—the picture certainly drags in the early reels and there is an unhappy ending! America proclaims it a MASTERPIECE—We are interested to have YOUR opinion!

It is showing
from Sunday to
Wednesday at

THE CORONET



FROM THE NEW BOOKS.

Psmith!

"Eve put down the lamp, and there was silence for a moment. Psmith looked about him thoughtfully. He picked up one of the dead bats and covered it with his handkerchief."

"Somebody's Mother," he murmured reverently. "Leave it to Psmith," by P. G. Wodehouse (Herbert Jenkins). 7s. 6d.

The 44th Street of Adventure. "Stranger things happen to an English lecturer in the United States than in any other country. At least, they happened to me. I shall never forget for instance, how in the middle of a speech to the City Club of New York, I was thrust into a taxi, hurried off to the 44th Street Theatre, received with a tremendous explosion (a flashlight photo!) thrust into the middle of a harem scene, and told to make a speech while the audience rattled for an original letter from Lloyd George to the American nation."

Very hot, and rather flustered, I kept screwing up a bit of paper which had been given to me at the wings, and by the time I had finished my three minutes' speech it was a bit of wet, mushy pulp. When I left the stage, a white-faced man in the wings who had been making frantic signs to me, informed me coldly that I had utterly destroyed Lloyd George's letter to the American nation which had just been raffled for many hundreds of dollars. "Adventures in Journalism," by Philip Gibbs. (Heinemann). 15s.

The "Little Lady."

"The story goes that the King and Queen, accompanied by the Princess Mary and the Prince of

Wales, arrived a little later than the programme demanded. The petty officer in charge of the launch, noticing that the young people were lingering behind their parents and skylarking a little in the fashion of children—and feeling his responsibility, ventured to say to the Princess, very gently:

"Come along, little lady. Whereupon, looking him over carefully, the royal maiden replied, with emphasis:

"I am not a 'little lady.' I am the Princess Mary. By this time, having noticed the delay of the children, Her Majesty had come back to the stern of the boat, and, overhearing these remarks, turned to the officer, who was much abashed, and said to him:

"She is quite right. She is not a 'little lady' but we hope to make her one."—"Remembered Yesterdays," by Robert Underwood Johnson.

RHYMED REVIEWS.

LADY INTO FOX.

[By David Garnett.]

"In the reign of the Emperor Kimmie, a man from Ono district in the province of Mino went out to look for a good wife. After a long search he met in the field a beautiful woman, and he brought her to his home and married her. After a while a son was born to them. One day the woman suddenly changed into a fox. The husband, gazing at the transformed wife, said, 'Come always to stay with me.' She did as he desired, and came always

to stay with him. For this reason she was called 'Ki-tsu-ne,' which means, 'Come always.'—From the Japanese book, "Ryo-i ki," written in the eighth century by the Buddhist Priest, Keikai.

The strangest tale of charm and spell Since Arthur ruled the British Islands Is that which all the neighbours tell Of Richard Tebrick, late of Rylands,—

Well-born and strictly orthodox, An Oxford man of means and station; His wife became a lady fox Without the slightest provocation!

At first she did as ladies do— Demanded clothes; and, what is oddest Enjoyed piquet and cribbage, too; Her ways were gentle, neat and modest.

But soon she chased the water-fowl, And next she killed and ate a rabbit; She loved to crunch the bones and growl Until the thing became a habit.

She tore her gowns and ran away, Preferring woods to country-boxes, But made her husband glad in May With five delightful baby-foxes.

He named them Esther (she was dark), Angelica, for she was moral; And didn't snap or snarl or bark; The boys were Kaspar, Selwyn, Sorel.

His wife and godcubs loved him much; He helped them catch the agile bunny; He brought them sugar, grapes and such, And once a whole big hive of honey.

But on her husband's very grounds Poor Mrs. Tebrick, changed by magic, Was hunted down and killed by hounds! And don't you think that's awful tragic? —A. G.

SOME JOTTINGS LITERARY.

A collector and book-lover, Ernest Dressel North, has quite recently acquired from London a rare and most interesting copy of "Stratford," the historical

tragedy, written by Robert Browning, in 1837, for his esteemed friend William C. Macready, the tragedian. The work has this dedication: "In all affectionate admiration to William C. Macready." This is signed in full in Browning's blunt autograph. Perhaps the chief distinction given to the volume is the fact that it was once the prize possession of Edgar Allan Poe. The book contains the American poet's name, inscribed on the outside of the original paper wrapper as follows: "Private, Edgar A. Poe, New York, June 16, '46."

As is well known in the literary field, Poe dedicated his volume "The Raven and Other Poems," New York, 1845, to Elizabeth Barrett of England, before her marriage to Robert Browning, with this inscription: "To the noblest of her sex." And what could I say in reply?" laughingly replied the author of the "Drama of Exile," "but, sir, you are the most discerning of yours." Poe was an ardent admirer of the poetry of Miss Barrett, quoting her again and again during his American lectures. In fact, he was the first to introduce her to the American people. Many of her earliest poems he printed in Graham's Magazine.

Miss Barrett, in a letter to R. H. Horne, wrote: "Our great poet, Mr. Browning, is enthusiastic in his admiration of the rhythm of 'The Raven.'"

This copy of "Stratford" was probably presented to the author of "Annabel Lee," on the occasion of the marriage of Robert Browning and Elizabeth Barrett.

At last—an author unwilling to have one of his books "mutilated" for motion picture production! The Norwegian novelist, Johan Bojer, who has been lecturing recently in the United States, refused to permit the "picturizing" of his favourite and latest novel "The Last of the Vikings." If more authors would take the same stand, perhaps features of the motion picture theatres would be less inclined in time to discontinue every serious picture as "educational," therefore to be shunned. Why should not this Bojer masterpiece

pass through the ordeal undisturbed? Nothing could be more thrilling than its descriptions of the fishing fleet lost in the dim, cold, stormy northern seas.

Jean de Pierrefeu, author of "Plutarch Lied," was attached to the French General Headquarters during the war; and his is the latest war book to question whether there exists such a thing as "the art of warfare." The book has sold 750,000 copies in France and now Mr. Knopf of New York has brought out an American edition. One wonders whether it will bear comparison with Mr. C. E. Montague's "Disenchantment," surely one of the sanest arraignments of figures and policies military.

Anyone who revelled in Mr. Lytton Strachey's "Queen Victoria" will recall its numerous references to "The Creevey Papers," with their delectable sidelights on English life during the first third of the eighteenth century. It will, therefore, be welcome news that the Duttons have just brought out this volume in a new edition, readily available to students of history. Thomas Creevey, though not a man of high consequence, seems to have had social charm; for he went everywhere from Windsor Castle down and knew intimately the royalty, nobility and gentry of England, writing of them all with the greatest freedom.

Another valuable book of published letters, those written by Mr. W. H. Hudson to Mr. Edward Edward Garnett, between the years 1901 and 1922, has been issued by the Duttons. Mr. Garnett, Mr. Hudson's intimate friend, has compiled and edited these as well as having contributed an interesting introduction. The letters are largely concerned with current literary matters, containing trenchant bits of criticism, keen comment, occasional praise and always a high, clear sense of personal and artistic value. It is, therefore, all the more amusing to find Mr. Hudson writing of Miss Amy Lowell: "She is certainly clever, but she seldom fails to irritate me," adding: "As a poet she is, to use an Americanism, 'small potatoes,' though in her own curious country she may be considered big potatoes." After all, one would hardly expect Mr. Hudson to appreciate Miss Lowell.

"SING ME YOUR SONG, O!"

Talking to Mr. William Archer of the Yeoman of the Guard; Gilbert gave some interesting details of the method of his collaboration with Sir Arthur Sullivan:

The verse always preceded the music, or even any hint of it. Sometimes—very rarely—Sullivan would say of some song I had given him, "My dear fellow, I can't make anything of this"—and then I would re-write it entirely—never tinker at it. But, of course, I don't mean to say that I "invented" all the rhythms and stanzas in the operas. Often a rhythm would be suggested by some old tune or other running in my head, and I would fit my words to it more or less exactly. When Sullivan knew I had done so, he would say, "Don't tell me what the tune is, or I shan't be able to get it out of my head." But once, I remember, I did tell him. There is a duet in The Yeoman of the Guard beginning:

"I have a song to sing, O! Sing me your song, O!" It was suggested to me by an old chanty I used to hear the sailors on board my yacht singing in the "dog-watch" on Saturday evenings, beginning:

"Come, and I will sing to you— What will you sing me? I will sing you one, O! What is your one, O!"

And so on. Well, when I gave Sullivan the words of the duet, he found the utmost difficulty in setting it. He tried hard for a fortnight, but in vain. I offered to recast it in another mould, but he expressed himself so delighted with it in its then form that he was determined to work it out to a satisfactory issue. At last, he came to me and said: "You often have some old air in your mind which prompts the metre of your songs; if anything prompted you in this one, hum it to me—it may help me." Only a rash man ever asks me to hum, but the situation was desperate, and I did my best to convey to him the air of the chanty that had suggested the song to me. I was so far successful that before I exclaimed: "That will do—I've got it!" And in an hour he produced the charming air as it appears in the opera. I have sometimes thought that he exclaimed "That will do—I've got it!" because my humming was more than he could bear; but he always assured me that it had given him the neces-

"VANITY FAIR."

What Lady Kow said to Ethel in one of the best conversations in "The Newcomes" is true of all of us, and certainly not least of Thackeray. "You belong to your belongings, my dear," said that very shrewd old lady; and the belongings of Thackeray were the Pall Mall and Mayfair of the first half of the nineteenth century. He stands alone, has no very obvious ancestors, and no descendants at all. Fielding is certainly the man he owed most to; the same method, that of a series of rambling adventures, the same habit of talking to his reader direct, the same admirable and beautiful English, refined, of course, perhaps weakened, to the taste of a generation that came after instead of before Wesley and Whitefield, but still essentially the same; a language of unapproachable ease, seeming especially in the later master's hands, to be the very language of every day and of all the world, and yet stupid, never inharmonious, never obscure, never unconscious of the great tradition, full everywhere of music and meaning and truth.

No one else gives quite the same impression as Thackeray of complete mastery over his instrument; one feels he could run up and down the keyboard forever and never strike a false note. Certainly no other writer of novels approaches him in this quality of liquid ease. His style may sometimes be too garrulous and conversational; and, of course, it was never meant to handle and never tries to handle the great things of nature and art.

After all, the great fact remains. "Vanity Fair" was written in 1847; and it is still doubtful whether, in spite of all its limitations, it is not one of the whole greatest novel in the language. A writer who is still talked of for the first prize in the race which he began to run longer ago than the historic Sixty Years Since can have no complaint to make of his treatment at the hands of Fame.—John Bailey, in "The Continuity of Letters."

sary clue to the proper setting of the song.—From "W. S. Gilbert, His Life and Letters," by Sidney Dark and Rowland Grey.

POLA NEGRI beauty of a thousand passions in a daring modern drama of love adventures in highest society. A picture destined to create a sensation.



POLA NEGRI

in

11 REELS — MAD LOVE — 11 REELS

"MAD LOVE"

The daring story of an adventuress!

SCREENLAND.

"THE ABYSSMAL BRUTE."

LONDON TALE FEATURED AT THE CAPITOL.

Most people who have read Jack London's books extensively are familiar with that master's use of the phrase, "red corpuscles," and similar terms. He wrote only of he-man heroes. He had a strong personal dislike for the men of soft parlour-made manners and mamby-pamby characteristics. He instinctively made his men more at home outdoors than in the drawing room, because he was like that himself.

Jack London travelled the world over, and he travelled in adventure style, which is to say in "side-door pullmans" or on tramp steamers. He never hesitated to rub against the rough edges to see how they felt. He hated the feeling of pampered luxury and there wasn't a drop of silk-pillow blood in him. His life history, compiled from personal notes by his wife, Charmian Kittredge London, reads like the adventures of a Crusader whose crusade is against ease and luxury, a war royal upon the easy things of life.

It is altogether fitting that the he-man hero of Jack London's famous novel of a rough-cut man, "The Abysmal Brute," should be played on the screen by Reginald Denny, an actor noted for his utter masculinity. Denny's biggest popular success has been in the two-reel condensed epics of humour, "The Leather Pushers," in which E. C. Witwer incorporated the best traditions of the prize ring. In his private life Denny is a lover of outdoor sports and has just about as strong a dislike for the "soft life" as the adventurous London.

"The Abysmal Brute" was produced for the screen by the Universal Pictures Corporation under Robert Henley's direction. Henley directed "The Flame of Life" and "The Flirt," two of Universal's biggest efforts, and is the featured director of that corporation.

"THE BROADWAY MADONNA."

Can a woman love a man so madly that she will risk imprisonment to do his bidding? Can she be so deeply in love that she will cast caution to the winds and carry out her part in his schemes even though they lead to the threshold of degradation?

These questions, in a Broadway, form the theme of "The Broadway Madonna" a stirring story of keenedged drama enacted by a superb cast coming to the World Theatre where it will be shown for a period of three days, commencing Sunday, 17th inst.

As the wife who is dominated by the superior will of her husband, Dorothy Revier interprets a role that requires the utmost in talent in the portraying of its ever-changing emotions. The wife is a woman of rare beauty and goodness but completely under the domination of her husband. When he orders her to act as a decoy in his scheme to prey upon a wealthy and impressionable young man, she hesitates at first but obeys with the same weak will that marks her character throughout. But at no time does she lose the sympathy of beholders. Miss Revier, who bears a singular likeness in face and figure to Gloria Swanson, moulds the character with such deft skill as to mark her as an artist of exceptional potentialities.

The problems set forth and answered with smashing effect in "The Broadway Madonna" have reared their tawdry heads in many a happy home in this and other countries. For that reason critics everywhere regard "The Broadway Madonna" as a production of timely interest and deep human appeal. Others in the cast are Jack Connolly, Harry Van Meter, Eugene Burr, Juanita Hanson and Lee Willard.

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MADONNA"

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WHO?

killed the great bank-robber and escaped suspicion on the spot.

What?

did the son who when he forces the law fall upon his?

When?

did the dark secret come out and hope dawn again?

Where?

did the bride turn when she was up?

Why?

did the wife yield to the husband who why did she cheat, covet and betray?

SEE ALL IN THE GREAT STORY DRAMA

THE BROADWAY MADONNA

COMMERCE AND FINANCE.

COPPER CONCERNS.

ABSORPTION APPROVED.

NEW YORK, February 15. Shareholders of both companies have approved the absorption of the China Copper Company by the Ray Consolidated Copper Company, through the exchange of 13 1/2 shares in the Ray Company for one share in the China Company. —*Reuter's American Service.*

NEW JAPANESE LOAN.

NEW YORK, February 15. The Japanese loan has been substantially oversubscribed.

LOCAL TRADE.

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE REPORT.

The fortnightly report issued by the Hongkong General Chamber of Commerce is as follows:—

Cotton piece goods and fancy cotton goods.—During the interval the China New Year holidays have intervened. Moderate complementary New Year sales have been effected, chiefly in Staples. Clearances are fairly satisfactory and prices are maintained.

Cotton yarn.—Since our last report a good demand has sprung up and values have further appreciated \$1/2 per bale. Market, however, closed weak owing to the decline of Shanghai yarn.

Quotations are:—No. 10s. \$220/245. No. 12s. \$225/250. No. 16s. \$245/260. No. 20s. \$225/250. Arrivals 850 bales. Shipments nil. Sales 2,000 bales. Bargains 3,300 bales.

Woolens.—There are enquiries for Blankets but local prices are too low, small lots and Broadcloths, etc. have been booked. Clearances of lighter woolens for spring wear are steady.

Raw Cottons.—No sales to report and prices are unchanged.

Metals.—Market quiet. Prices slightly firmer.

Flour market report.—Stock: about 1,000,000. Market: quiet. Quotations: American Patent \$3.50 per sack. American Straight \$2.50 per sack. American Cut off \$2.00 per sack. Australian No. 1 \$2.85 per sack.

Java Sugar.—Market firm. Philippines Sugar.—Market firm at advancing rates.

Saltpetre.—Very quiet since last report.

BANQUE DE L'INDO-CHINE.

FRENCH POLICY IN THE FAR EAST.

PARIS, February 14. M. Sarraut, in a speech before the Foreign Affairs Committee of the Chamber of Deputies, referred to the renewal of privilege for the Banque de l'Indo-Chine. He dealt with the whole question of France's policy in the Far East from the viewpoint of the important position now held by Indo-China, also French interests in China. He outlined an economic programme, aiming at accelerating the development of French Colonies.

The Committee adopted the conclusions arrived at in the Guernsey report on the question of privilege for the Banque de l'Indo-Chine. The report pointed out that the Committee had only to consider the privilege of the issue granted the bank in relation to its activity outside French territory particularly China.

M. Guernier proposed a renewal of the present arrangements, with the reservation that the Foreign Ministry should permanently exercise surveillance over the operations of the Chinese consortium, and submit to Parliament as annual report thereon.—*Reuter.*

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HONGKONG BANK NOTES.

Returns of the Average Amount of Bank Notes in Circulation and of Specie in Reserve in Hongkong, during the month ended 31st January, 1924, as certified by the Managers of the respective Banks:—

Banks	Average Amount	Specie in Reserve
Chartered Bank of India, Australia and China	\$1,852,800	\$5,000,000
Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation	47,008,741	37,000,000
Mercantile Bank of India, Limited	1,010,510	850,000
Total	\$22,872,051	\$42,850,000

* Sterling Securities deposited with the Crown Agents valued at \$905,500.

† Securities with the Crown Agents and Straits Government \$1,800,000.

§ Securities with the Crown Agents \$130,000.

The following statement of the securities lodged with the Crown Agents by the Mercantile Bank of India, Limited, against their notes in circulation, is published for general information under Section 5 of the Mercantile Bank Note Issue Ordinance, 1917, (Ordinance No. 65 of 1911):—

Security	Amount	Latest market price
4 1/2% Treasury Bonds repayable @ 100 in 1930	\$1,000,000	104-104 1/2

SUN AND CUSTOMS.

HITTING THE UNDER DOG.

POINTED COMMENT.

The foreign press of China has a habit of filling editorial columns with attacks on Sun Yat-sen, says the *Far Eastern Review*. The idea is that every time anything goes wrong Sun is responsible. When there is banditry in Honan, the headquarters of Wu Pei-fu, out-lawry on the upper Yangtze, the political balliwick of the Chihli faction, or illegal taxation in Chekiang, the headquarters of the Anfu Club or in Kiangsu, a province loyal to Peking, it is a subject for diplomatic discussion. But when Sun Yat-sen displeases the foreigner, all hands rush on board to destroy him.

Sun Yat-sen said that he would seize the Canton customs house and immediately the powers sent gunboats and admirals and all sorts of officials to intervene and if necessary to fire upon the city. When Lu Yung-hsiang in Chekiang interferes with foreign trade by imposing illegal taxes, by seizing foreign goods in foreign-owned warehouses, by forbidding foreign-owned houseboats to ply the rivers of his province, no gunboats are sent, no demonstration is made, no admirals appear on the scene.

When Anhwei refuses to recognize the transit pass or Honan permits the kidnapping of missionaries right under the very nose of the greatest of Peking satraps, it is a subject for the soft pedal.

Into the rights of Dr. Sun's contentions it is difficult to go. He claims that it is absurd to permit money to go out of Kwangtung into the treasury of those who would utilize it to purchase arms for the subjugation of Kwangtung and the massacring of its people. On the other hand, foreigners must insist that the customs service shall remain intact in accordance with the treaties between China and the foreign powers. Even so superficial a statement of the case brings out the fact that there is much right in principle on both sides. In the method of handling the question, Sun, however, has the advantage over the legations in Peking, in that he has solidly behind him the support of the people of his own province who would regard the question as one of internal politics, between the government at Canton and the government at Peking. They cannot see wherein lies the right of foreigners to interfere. If Sun Yat-sen were weak before the customs episode, he was all-powerful immediately thereafter.

It is rather curious to see what shifting there have been in opinion with regard to China. Those who for years were active propagandists in the cause of China for the Chinese, the damnation of foreign rights in China, the condemnation of Japan and Great Britain for aggression in China, are now the most bitterly insistent upon foreign intervention in some form, with the United States as the chief interventionist. Why these Americans want to throw the full onus of disorders in China and foreigners' mistakes in China upon their own country, is difficult for an American to understand. When they were so pro-Chinese that they could the Chinese themselves in Celestia, they had axes to grind. They wanted special favours from the Chinese to the disadvantage of all other foreigners in China. It is to be presumed that now that they take the other view, they have either not received the favours or they have changed their tactics from cringing mendacity to loud-mouthed blackmail.

In taking such an attitude toward Dr. Sun Yat-sen these men have hit upon the wrong citizen Sun is afraid of no one. That is perhaps the secret of his enormous success with the Chinese people. He knows exactly what he wants. He knows that it is impossible to achieve his aims as rapidly as even his own most ardent supporters imagine. He knows that to make so large and unwieldy a country as China an effective republic, a modern state, will take a generation, perhaps a century. He appraises the forces of his antagonists both within and outside the country, and he realizes that they are legion. But he faces them with the bravery of the certainty of an idealist. He stands before the world the exception in Chinese politics, a clean and honest man. When the journalists who edit foreign-language newspapers in China attack such a man they place themselves in the position of supporting all the filth and corruption in Chinese affairs Sun opposes.

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FULL COURT APPEAL.

CHARTER PARTY DISPUTE.

A MAJORITY DECISION.

Judgment was given to-day in connection with the Full Court appeal heard last November against the judgment given by the Chief Justice (Sir William Rees Davies K. C.) last January in a charter party action concerning the s.s. "Singaporean." On the Bench with the Chief Justice during the hearing of the appeal were Sir Skinner Turner, of the Shanghai Supreme Court, and Mr. Justice Gompertz, the Puisne Judge.

The plaintiffs in the original action were the Cheong Yue Steamship Co., who succeeded in obtaining judgment for \$164,849.87 against the Bombay firm of Darsal Narji and Coy. The latter appealed against the Chief Justice's decision as being wrong in law.

Mr. C. G. Alabaster K. C. (instructed by Messrs. Deacon Harston and Shenton) appeared to support the appeal and Messrs. Eldon Potter K. C. and F. C. Jenkin (instructed by Messrs. Wilkinson and Grist) to oppose it.

Lengthy written judgments were given by all three members of the Court and took nearly an hour and a half to read. Sir Skinner Turner's judgment upholding the appeal was read by the Chief Justice whose own decision and that of Mr. Justice Gompertz was that the appeal must fail. The appeal was therefore, by a majority of two to one, disallowed.

MONDAY'S RECITAL.

PROFESSOR DANENBERG'S PUPILS.

The following programme is to be given on Monday next.

1. Variations on a theme of Beethoven (for 2 Pianos) Salut Saens.—Mrs. A. W. da Rosa (Nee Elfrida Osmond) and Prof. Danenberg.

2. (a) Orientale, (b) Fur Elise.—Miss Caroline Braga.

3. Nocturne in A.—Miss Marie Machado Alvaro.

4. Handicapped Dance.—Miss Edith da Rocha.

5. (a) Etude de Concert, (b) Mill stream (c) Sous Bois.—Miss Marie Rosario.

6. (a) Sextet from "Lucia" (for left hand alone), (b) Etude de Concert.—Miss Lina da Rocha.

7. (a) Piece Romantique (for 2 Pianos), (b) Gavotte (for 2 Pianos), (c) By Moonshine, (d) Rondo in D major.—Master Emil Danenberg (Prof. Danenberg on 2nd Piano).

8. (a) Witches Dance, (b) Song without words, (c) The Hobby Horse.—Miss Clara Wong.

9. Improvisation Roccoco (for 2 Pianos)—Miss Winifred Robinson and Prof. Danenberg.

10. Ballade in A flat.—Miss Marie de Senna Fernandes.

11. (a) Arabesque in G, (b) Nocturne for left hand alone, (c) Nocturne (Russian Dance)—Miss Loly Carvalho.

12. (a) Rêver dans l'eau, (b) Menuetto Vecchio, (c) Ragamuffin.—Miss Lillian Chenalloy.

13. (a) Valse Triste, (b) Etude Mignone.—Miss Esme Cornell.

14. Little Rhapsody.—Miss Cissy Castro Alves.

15. Menuet.—Master Aubrey Dawson.

16. Tourbillon (Whirlwind for 2 Pianos)—Miss Elsa Bell and Master George Bond.

EUROPE'S PROBLEMS.

BRITISH PREMIER'S FRANK STATEMENT.

PARIS, February 14. Interviewed by Mr. Sauerwein, correspondent of the *Matin* London, Mr. MacDonald emphasized that he had not committed himself with regard to an International Reconstruction Conference, which must be an end, not a beginning of a chapter. It stood no chance unless preliminary examinations completely clarified problems.

He desired frank and honest exchanges of views with France through the Ambassadors, and, if necessary, by personal correspondence. Differences of opinion did not matter provided they were without an ulterior motive. He longest intended to discuss ideas and not to attack individuals. He would use neither strategy nor complicated formulae in diplomacy, but he would proceed straight-forwardly, solely desiring to alleviate Europe's sufferings by solving the few essential problems in agreement with France.

He was strongly idealist, and believed in the possibility of human progress, but respectfully admitted that the war-like elements were gaining ground in Germany. He said he was of the opinion that we had not used the best means to support the moral elite of Germany, who, to-day had been almost exterminated by misery. The good elements in Germany were strong, determined, and the imperialistic and bellicose ideas of the Junkers must be discarded.

France and Britain should co-operate morally, economically and politically in order to eradicate everything bad in Europe. He concluded by saying "Let us work with confidence." —*Reuter.*

EGYPT'S TREASURE.

DISCOVERER DENIED ADMITTANCE.

HOWARD CARTER TURNED AWAY.

LUXOR, February 15. Mr. Howard Carter, presenting himself at Tutankhamen's tomb this morning, was refused admittance by the Chief of Police who showed him a written order from the Government. Mr. Carter thereupon retired.—*Reuter.*

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Silk and Valuable Cargo for Italy, France and London (under arrangement) will be accepted by this Steamer proceeding to Bombay and there transhipped to the on-carriage Steamer for Marseilles and London.

Parcels will be received at this Office until NOON, the day before sailing. The contents and value of all packages are required.

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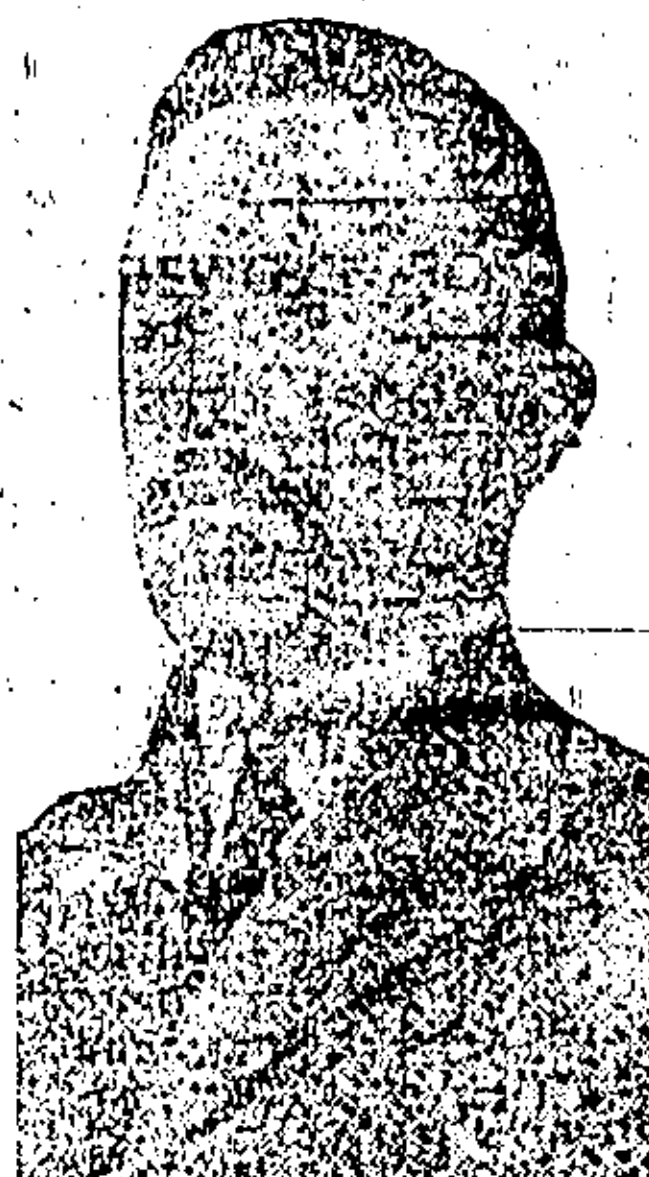


Photo by Central News. Block by Nam Sang.
Flashlight photograph taken during the grand Chinese carnival dinner dance held in the Hongkong Hotel Grill Room on China New Year Eve.

MEN IN THE NEWS.



New photo of Dr. Sun Yat-sen, head of the Canton Government. Dr. Sun recently cabled to Mr. Ramsay MacDonald, Labour Premier, asking him to "bring to the notice of the British people, and particularly the workers, the grave situation which the British representatives in China have been instrumental in creating at Canton."



Jose Vasconcelos, Minister of Public Instruction of Mexico, who may be proposed as a compromise presidential candidate. In this way de la Huerta may consent to withdraw his candidacy upon the condition that assent to the proposal be given by General Calles, the candidate backed by President Obregon. This may bring peace to a war ridden country if both parties will agree.



General Charles G. Dawes, first director of the Budget of the United States—from which he resigned to return to private life as a financier—has now been selected, the cables state, as one of the two American experts to serve on the "unofficial" advisory committee to adjust German Reparations.

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